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**VOLVO**

## HOME NEWS

## £1m-a-week rescue fund for pig farmers

By Hugh Clayton

Emergency action to safeguard British food supplies was decided yesterday in the face of damaging forecasts by producers in other EEC states. Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, announced a subsidy worth £1m a week for pig producers and an imminent ban on fishing of herring in the North Sea.

He was worried about the effect on the British pig industry of cheap supplies from Denmark, Holland and West Germany. He was also alarmed about overfishing near Britain by other countries, including those in the EEC.

Mr Silkin told MPs that the present method of calculating EEC subsidies on exports of processed pig to Britain was unfair. "Our producers are facing very real difficulties", he said. "Slow slaughtering rates, a disturbingly high level and the breeding herd is being run down."

He had decided to pay pig farmers 50p a score (20lb) or about £3.50 for each dead pig produced. "Supplementary estimates will be presented in due course, and meanwhile, if necessary, recourse will be had to the contingency fund."

Mr Silkin said later that a typical loss by pig farmers was about £2.50 for each animal. The aid to farmers would peg prices of pork and bacon and safeguard supplies for up to a year. The measure would last for at least three months and restore efficient pig farmers to profit.

Mr James Foster, chairman of the pigs committee of the National Farmers' Union, said the aid on pigs was timely and welcome.

On fish, Mr Silkin said in the Commons that it would be dangerous to allow lack of control to continue. The Government had told the EEC Commission of necessary conservation measures, but had the power to start them alone.

He said at a press conference that the Government considered four measures to be essential and was ready to introduce them in a month. First, fishermen should be forbidden to carry nets of different mesh size on the same voyage. Second, the area in which Norway pout, an industrial species used in animal feed, could be taken at the expense of fish for human food, should be restricted.

The third need was for stricter control of species caught by chance by vessels looking for other species.

Lastly, Britain wanted a ban on fishing for herring in the North Sea.



**Environment awards:** A couple who laboured with their hands for seven years to turn a devastated colliery site into an attractive woodland pony-trekking centre, received one of the six premier awards for environmental responsibility from the Business and Industry Panel for the Environment yesterday.

In a valley near Port Talbot, West Glamorgan, Mr Alden Holden and his wife, Libby, shown above at the centre, cleared the rubbish and waste ground around the site with the aid of a bulldozer and built 13 log cabins and accommodation for themselves and 36 ponies.

"Although the site is in beautiful surroundings, the ground itself was worse than derelict, and we had to start from scratch", Mr Holden said.

Another award went to British Leyland's assembly and paint plant at Solihull, West Midlands, built to produce the new Rover

car. Although, according to the citation, it is the largest single development project in the industry for 40 years, it is "all but invisible to the local community."

"Every care has been taken to avoid air pollution and that contamination of adjacent water. The buildings are spacious and clean, and provide the workforce with not only the most efficient technological equipment but superb working conditions."

The other premier award winners are the Truman brewery administrative building, in Tower Hamlets, London; WD & HO Wills's tobacco complex, Hartcliffe, Bristol; the National Coal Board's open-cast reclamation scheme at Shipley, Derbyshire; and a new headquarters for Willis, Faber & Dumas, insurance brokers, in Ipswich.

Out of a total of 80 entries, seven others were highly commended by the panel headed by Mr Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail.

## 10-year drop in A-level pass rate for Manchester

By Philip Venning  
Of The Times Educational Supplement

Important new evidence of falling standards in schools appeared this week in a report showing that GCE A-level results in Manchester's schools have been deteriorating steadily for 10 years.

The report, produced by Mr Dudley Fiske, the city's chief education officer, shows that A-level passes as a proportion of entries have dropped from nearly 70 per cent in 1964 to only 56 per cent last year. The number of entries stayed much the same.

The education department, which considered the report on Monday, has delayed discussing it until March, when it will meet to examine the examination results and other evidence.

The figures are approximate and not always strictly comparable, and throw little light on the debate about comprehensive schooling in the city. All Manchester's schools except Roman Catholic ones, went comprehensive in 1967, so the first comprehensive pupils did not sit A levels until 1974. By then the pass rate was falling and results in the past three years have continued the trend.

Meanwhile in the Roman Catholic schools, which go comprehensive later this year, A-level results rose to a peak in 1974 before falling.

In his report Mr Fiske points out that important factors have been omitted from the figures. Results by pupils doing A levels in further education colleges are not included, and there is no way of distinguishing children who live in Manchester from those from outside.

One main topic at the March meeting will be the latest results of attainment tests on pupils aged seven and 12. They were started in 1974 and will eventually indicate whether academic standards of pupils living in the schools' catchment areas has been falling.

By contrast, a report to Oxfordshire Education Committee shows that its A-level pass rate rose from 67 per cent to 74 per cent between 1974 and 1976, and that the number of entries went up from 2,809 to 3,071.

## 'Sunday Times Magazine'

Times Newspapers and the British Printing Corporation propose, subject to contract, that Sun Printers, a subsidiary of BPC, will continue to print the Sunday Times Magazine for seven years from next September.

## Annan call to reform Civil Service College

By Peter Hennessy

Lord Annan, Provost of University College London, called yesterday for a reorganization of higher education provision designed to produce a new breed of specialist, highly trained men and women better equipped to fill senior posts in industry and the public service.

British universities and polytechnics should develop centres of excellence to match the *grandes écoles* in France, which turn out 40,000 graduates each year over and above the alumni of the French university system. To complement such a reform, the British Civil Service College should be reorganized along the lines of the *Ecole Nationale d'Administration* in Paris, the staff college for the higher posts in the French public sector and public service.

In an interview with The Times to coincide with the publication of the University College annual report, Lord Annan said: "Why cannot the newly invigorated Department of Education and Science initiate action to produce a core of trained men and women which government, industry and the country needs in management?"

"All that is wanted is for the universities and polytechnics slightly to modify their examination structure and for the University Grants Committee and the ministry to designate certain departments in universities and polytechnics to provide specialist, high-powered courses."

"This would be the counterpart of rebuilding the Civil Service College. It would be the best way of reproducing the French system of *grandes écoles* and the *Ecole Nationale d'Administration*."

Under Lord Annan's scheme students would gain entry to specialist courses by taking an examination in their second year at a university or polytechnic. If successful they would receive a further two years of training. Should they fail, they would complete the normal requirements of a three-year degree course.

In a foreword to the University College annual report, Lord Annan also called for a new statute to replace the Education Act, 1944, the basis of postwar educational provision. Its primary purpose should be to raise academic attainment by improving standards at secondary-school level.

Since 1944 there had been a preoccupation with securing equality of opportunity in education; now fundamental questions needed to be answered about "how we teach, what we teach, why we teach" and how what is taught should be assessed.

"Already it is the custom in some schools to eliminate competition, evade exams and regard the pursuit of intellectual excellence as if it led to vocational disease; cleverness, energy and ability are discouraged, and docile, cooperation (and unendurable dullness) are celebrated as the most desirable traits in personality," Lord Annan wrote.

A new Education Act was needed to ensure minimum national standards in reading, written expression and arithmetic. A common core curriculum, which every child must take, should encompass the writing of English, the ability to calculate and manipulate numbers, and a European language."

Letters, page 15

## Oxfordshire faces 30 pc rise in rates

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

Ratepayers in Oxfordshire likely to face an average increase of about 30 per cent in their rates in 1977-78, the council said yesterday.

Such a rise would be the national average of 15 per cent predicted by the Environment, when it announced the rate-supply figures in November. Oxfordshire's policy sources committee is mending the council's £2.7m from its balance due to the rate increase.

Such a rise would be the national average of 15 per cent predicted by the Environment, when it announced the rate-supply figures in November. Oxfordshire's policy sources committee is mending the council's £2.7m from its balance due to the rate increase.

The council cut £5m planned spending last year, but the budget is still £1.5m over. A total of £5.6 million has been cut from the full council on £8 big reductions in m.w. follow, including 464 teaching jobs, policy and resources cuts. It believes that can reduce the rate increase to 15 per cent, or 91p in the £100. A standard in the level of 23.5 per cent, 12p pound.

The proposal, which before the full council March 1, entails the sale of 2,180 posts, to be replaced by wage and redundancy payments. The council says it cannot support severe reductions. Liberals say the proposal is still too high.

Education bears the brunt of the cuts. Employment of teachers affected under the Essex proposals, but the county's town service would have most of the savings (our town staff writes).

Swimming lessons were cancelled unless volunteers over the instruction, over teaching would stop. Food parcels and cleaners have to go and convalescence would be used for meals.

The proposals also envisage a third in further town fees and the reduction of non-teaching college staff. Some small schools would close.

Cambridgeshire Council proposes to reduce planned spending by £4 million a year. Its plans include the closure of 745 teaching posts, introduction of a four half-day school week to heating, lighting and meals, and charges of £20 for parents who enter their children for nations.

Staffordshire ratepayers in Staffordshire ratepayers' increase of at least a quarter. The council's Labour leader, the c said yesterday (our St Trent Correspondent writes).

The exact figure was announced on Monday. The county's reduced support grant meant it had to find an extra £3 added. A rise of a quarter the rates was the figure.

## Warning of fake Cartier watches

By Craig Saxon

Counterfeit watches bearing the famous name of Cartier, which have been turning up throughout the world, are being sold in Britain. Alain Perrin, president of Les Mues de Cartier International, said in London yesterday.

M. Perrin, who arrived from Paris to address a press conference at the Cartier branch in New Bond Street, London, said the company was being seriously embarrassed by an international gang who are thought to be buying and selling the fake watches, which are assembled in Switzerland, Italy and America.

In Britain, he said, about 600 had turned up. They are usually bought for anything between £40 and £500 at clubs, in the streets, such as Carnaby Street, London, on racecourses and at a few retailers.

The company was working closely with the customs and excise. The fake watches are believed to arrive in Britain in lorries from Europe.

M. Perrin said: "We think there is one organization behind this and it buys and sells fakes throughout the world. The French police think it is a gang specializing in fakes, not just fake watches."

In London an 18-carat Cartier gold watch with gold buckle is likely to cost £800. Some of the fakes can be distinguished by a flat rather than curved glass, a light feel to the watch, and a shallow engraving of the name Cartier on the back. The hands are thicker.

## New police pay talks to be held

By Clive Borrell

Mr Rees, Home Secretary, has agreed to new negotiations with the Police Federation in an attempt to resolve the deadlock in the dispute over police pay, which has lasted for six months.

After meeting the chairman and the general secretary of the federation, which represents 120,000 policemen in England and Wales, he gave his assent to talks not only about pay but also about negotiating machinery and representation.

The police say they should be treated as a "special case" in their demand for a 6.5-week increase. They have been offered 4½ per cent, which they have rejected. Mr Rees has told the federation that he wants the dispute to be resolved as soon as possible.

Since July of last year the federation has refused to meet the Police Council, the employers' negotiating body for police pay and conditions. The council said then that it could offer no more than 4½ per cent, otherwise the Government's pay code would be breached. The police have refused to accept a pay rise of that size.

Local council treasurers, who budgeted for a 4½ per cent rise in police pay, are now somewhat embarrassed because their accounts show a false credit, owing to the determination of the police to accept nothing less than a rise of 6.5 a week.

A Police Council official emphasized again last night that no more money could be offered.

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## Journalists' closed shop challenge

By Tim Jones

Labour Staff Union of Journalists to have established its first closed-shop agreement in the provincial press was challenged yesterday when the High Court granted a temporary injunction to a journalist on the *Hford Recorder* preventing the management from dismissing him today.

The journalist, Mr Rodney Southwood, is challenging a management decision to dismiss him unless he leaves the Institute of Journalists and rejoins the NUJ.

While journalists on the *Hford Recorder* and the *Newham Recorder* hailed the agreement as a "marvellous victory", the Newspaper Society

said the action by one of its member newspapers was in conflict with the society's policy.

A representative of the society said the development would be referred to its council at the earliest opportunity.

The agreement was reached after a three-day dispute at the newspaper, which is owned by Home Counties Newspapers. In the deal, new recruits to the paper would have to join the NUJ, but existing non-NUJ members would not be required to become members.

A statement from the *Hford Recorder* NUJ chapter office branch last night said two photographers, including Mr Southwood, had resigned from the NUJ after the vote in favour of a closed shop. "The 12 re-

maining chapel members decided that the fight must be won at all costs.

"At first the management appeared to be backing the photographers, but then letters were given to the two, suspending them on full pay and warning them they would be dismissed for 'misconduct' on Friday this week unless they rejoined the NUJ."

NUJ members, the statement said, had made it clear that they would not return to work unless a written closed-shop agreement was forthcoming. After the agreement, drafted by NUJ headquarters, had been signed, one of the photographers rejoined the union.

There is to be a further court hearing on Tuesday.

## Magistrate is asked to dismiss Singapore plea

Mr Kenneth Barracough, the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, was asked at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, Westminster, yesterday to dismiss the Singapore Government's request for the extradition of Richard Tarling, aged 42, a former Slater, Walker executive.

Seventeen charges against Mr Tarling were totally and utterly without foundation, Mr Andrew Bateson, QC, his counsel, said. "It is an incredible fact about this case, but an inevitable and inescapable conclusion, that Mr Tarling's principal crime is to have been a director of this group of companies."

Mr Tarling was chairman of a Far East company, Havel Per Brothers International, after it had been taken over by Slater, Walker Securities in 1971.

He and James Slater, aged 47, the financier, are wanted in Singapore on charges including conspiracy to cheat shareholders, criminal breach of trust and furnishing misleading statements.

Mr Bateson said the prosecution had failed to make out a prima facie case. He added: "Mr Tarling, so far as he had anything to do with this company, as a matter of policy made certain decisions based upon what he considered to be the best interests of the company and everybody associated with it."

On the evidence there was no single case where the intention alleged in the charge was supported by documents. The prosecution had ignored and suppressed simple rational explanations for the actions Mr Tarling took.

"In order to create these charges", Mr Bateson continued, "quite astonishingly somebody has thought up an intention to fit the act. This case appears to have been approached on the simple basis 'let us look at it; find an intention he did not have and accuse him of an offence based upon that intention'."

The hearing continues today.

## One-legged man advised to give up crime

From Our Correspondent

Philip McCutcheon, aged 46, an unsuccessful burglar who has one leg, was advised to retire from crime when he appeared at York Crown Court yesterday. Mr Rodney Percy, the recorder, described him as a "rotten" burglar.

Mr McCutcheon, of Wentworth Crescent, Harrogate, admitted driving while unfit through drink or drugs, driving while disqualified, handling stolen goods, and theft.

He was fined £10, disqualified from driving for a further six months, given a conditional discharge for 18 months, and ordered to do a total of 90 hours community service.

## Electricity-bill discount details explained

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Details of the Government's 25 per cent discount scheme on electricity bills for pensioners and other poor people were announced by Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, in a parliamentary written reply last night. People with prepayment meters will receive a cash rebate at post offices and those paying quarterly bills a voucher equivalent to a quarter of their second winter bill. The scheme applies to electricity used in the three months ending in February, March or April. Discount will be available to everyone on supplementary benefit or family income supplement who pay directly for their electricity.

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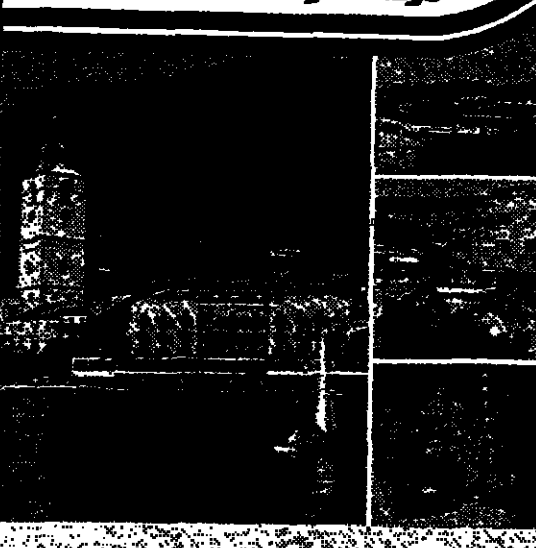
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## Oxford

tutors chief suggests  
reducing the intake  
of medical schools

By Hugh Clayton  
Agricultural Correspondent

Ministers fixed the price of bread because it was "an important element in the cost of living, which the Government wants to keep as steady as possible". That was said in 1941 and illustrates the long history of political intervention in the baking industry.

Although many people cannot speak of "standard" bread without cursing it, more than half the bread made in Britain is sold in that sliced and wrapped form. Almost two-thirds of our bread is sold by grocers, not bakers.

The present dispute has centred on that industrialized end of the market. The little men who bake behind their shops have not been touched.

Some supermarket managers who have refused to accept the price fixed by the van drivers have found all their supplies blocked, not only those of "standard" bread.

Why are van drivers in the United Road Transport Union pushing up the price of such bread when the leaders of the trade union movement tell ministers their restraint on prices, especially of food, is an essential component of a social contract that includes wage curbs?

Primarily the dispute is about job prospects. The van drivers' action looks like a bolt from the blue, but this is not the first time they have been alarmed about supermarket prices. Loaves are priced differently from other groceries. The large "standard" loaf is produced at a recommended retail price which varies across the country and is enshrined in a ministerial order.

Manufacturers negotiate discounts with their main customers, supermarket chains, below that price. In 1974 a price war broke out in which discounts of between 35p and 40p in the pound were offered. Mrs Williams, who preceded Mr Hattersley at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, intervened and fixed a maximum discount of 22p in the pound.

Van drivers were relieved because a price war would not only have eliminated bakeries

Union leader  
proposes  
15 per cent  
increases

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

Pay rises should keep pace with inflation in the third round of the income policy, Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers Association, says in the latest issue of the union journal. He proposes salary increases of about 15 per cent for 1977-78.

He says that although it is generally agreed that a continuing income policy is essential for the country's economic recovery, pay restraint has not brought down the rate of inflation quickly enough for the exercise to be obviously worth while, and the "savage discrimination" that flat-rate pay rises have imposed on skilled workers, technical, professional and managerial staffs is reducing the incentive to work. His members' tolerance for the continuation of such discrimination "is beginning to wear thin", he says.

Mr Lyons argues that the Chancellor's tax concessions last year were of no help to technical and middle-management staffs, who have suffered an "enormous" cut in living standards over the past three years.

"Our members are not remotely wealthy", he says. "The wealth is still retained by the wealthy. As to the generally low-paid, they have not benefited either. So clumsy have the two pay policies been that the genuinely low-paid have come out of them very badly."

Commenting on speculation that the next pay limit will be 7 per cent, or £3 a week, he says, "The Government should disabuse itself of any possibility of an agreed deal on such figures. With inflation due to stay at 15 per cent in 1977, how can we look for an increase of much less than that amount in our 1978 settlement?"

An increase of 15 per cent or so does not have to be seen solely in terms of gross pay, he says. "Direct taxation relief could, and desirably should, provide a significant part of such an increase."

The alternative might be an increase in corporation tax. Otherwise indirect taxes should be increased.

That point of view runs counter to powerful demands for thought within the TUC, where the automatic response to almost any economic development is to call for increased public expenditure, Mr Lyons says.

Van drivers worried about jobs  
Fear that bread-price war might eliminate small shops

By Hugh Clayton  
Agricultural Correspondent

Ministers fixed the price of bread because it was "an important element in the cost of living, which the Government wants to keep as steady as possible". That was said in 1941 and illustrates the long history of political intervention in the baking industry.

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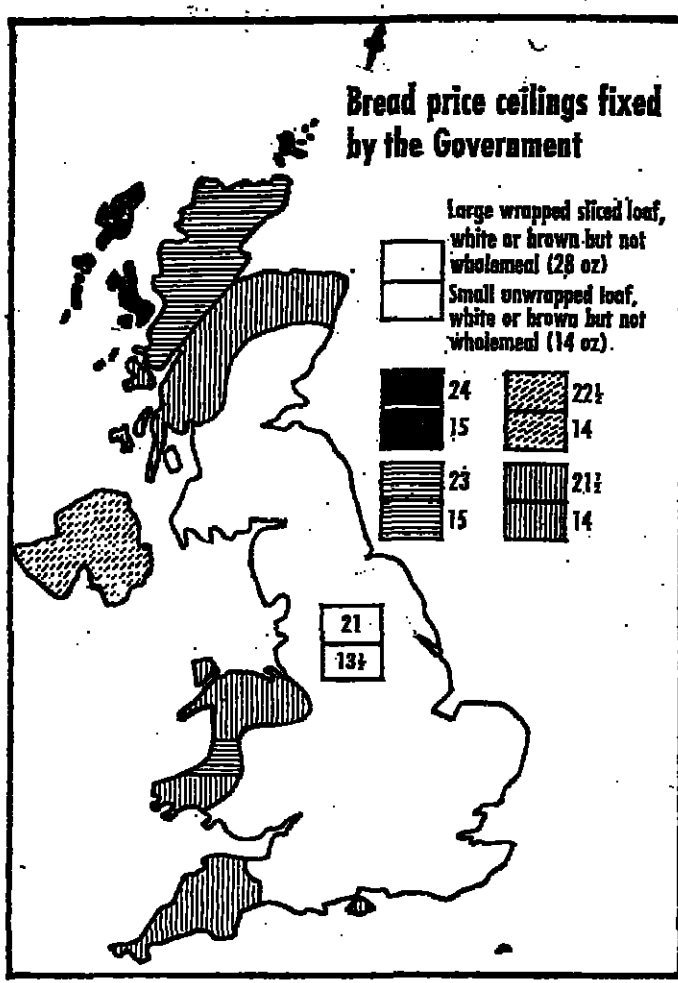
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Primarily the dispute is about job prospects. The van drivers' action looks like a bolt from the blue, but this is not the first time they have been alarmed about supermarket prices. Loaves are priced differently from other groceries. The large "standard" loaf is produced at a recommended retail price which varies across the country and is enshrined in a ministerial order.

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Van drivers were relieved because a price war would not only have eliminated bakeries

Dismissed union rebel  
wins right to benefit

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff

A man dismissed after refusing to join a trade union under a closed-shop agreement has won a crucial appeal to the Chief National Insurance Commissioner against being denied unemployment benefit.

The case centred on whether he lost his job through misconduct; whether he voluntarily left without just cause; and whether he neglected a reasonable opportunity of suitable employment.

On all points Mr R. J. A. Temple, chief commissioner, has found in his favour and says he should get unemployment benefit. The decision overturns a local tribunal's findings and was made despite a strong submission by an insurance officer that refusal to comply with the closed shop was misconduct.

That submission, which is implicitly rejected by the chief commissioner's findings, said the man provoked his employer to dismiss him; that he had made himself unsuitable for his job; that he was blameworthy because he caused himself to become a potential charge on the National Insurance Fund.

The man, Mr Brian Betts, joined the railways as a plate-layer in July, 1974, nine days before the repeal of the Industrial Relations Act, which enshrined the right to join or not to join a union. New legislation made it fair practice to dismiss an employee for not complying with a closed shop, leaving religious objection as the only valid reason for exemption.

A year after Mr Betts had joined British Rail, the three railway unions negotiated with the management a controversial closed-shop agreement, forcing everyone to join or lose his job.

Mr Betts refused to join because he thought it was a denial of his freedom. He lost an internal appeal, and in March last year was given a month's notice. At the time of the appeal legislation in effect allowed exemption from a closed shop if there was objection on "any reasonable ground to being a member of a particular trade union". Now, only religious objection is valid.

He maintained that he was unfairly dismissed, but an industrial tribunal found to the contrary, on the ground that he had no religious objection.

A local tribunal in Mansfield later upheld the disqualification for benefit because he had voluntarily left his employment without just cause, it said. However, it reduced the period of disqualification from the maximum six weeks to three weeks. Mr Betts then took his case to the Chief National Insurance Commissioner.

An insurance officer argued that Mr Betts should be disqualified from benefit because of the provisions of section 20 of the Social Security Act, 1975, which authorizes up to six weeks' disqualification because of misconduct, leaving without just cause, or not taking an opportunity of suitable employment.

The findings of the chief commissioner on each point are:

Misconduct: The local tribunal had unanimously rejected any question of misconduct. The employers had made no complaints against the man's work. It would be wholly inappropriate to describe the man's non-compliance as misconduct through which he lost his employment.

Leaving without just cause: "I see no reason to impute to the claimant the last thing he had in mind, namely a volition to leave his employment." It would be a misuse of language to describe the man as having voluntarily left, so the question of "just cause" did not arise for consideration.

Neglecting an opportunity of suitable employment: The chief commissioner said the man's views were shared by many others, and thus did not derive from the "insubstantial perversities of an individual eccentricity." Those views, sincerely held, were of no less weight and no less valid than if, for example, he had a religious objection to Sunday working; or an objection on tectonic principles to employment that involved serving intoxicants on licensed premises; or if as a vegetarian he objected to work in a butcher's shop. In terms of the Social Security Act, 1975, the employment was not suitable for him, the commissioner found.

Doctors say X-ray testing  
lead to breast cancer

Medical Correspondent

Screening tests for breast cancer (mammography) carried out on 50,000 more women about the value of its risks, a leading British medical journal says today. It quotes Dr N. Simon and Silverstone, two researchers, who say that mammography in young women to radiation-induced breast cancer.

The journal suggests that, although the cancer risk associated with a single mammographic examination is very small, more clinics should restrict mammography to women over 50, and to those younger women with clear medical reasons for the examination.

survivors of the atomic bomb explosions in Japan. In all those cases the interval between exposure to X-rays and the development of breast cancer was 15 to 20 years or more.

A second important factor is that the evidence so far available suggests that the benefits of screening for breast cancer in healthy women are limited to those over the age of 50.

No one yet knows how often mammographic screening has to be repeated if it is to be effective in detecting early cancers. The journal suggests that, although the cancer risk associated with a single mammographic examination is very small, more clinics should restrict mammography to women over 50, and to those younger women with clear medical reasons for the examination.

## Gunmen

53,677

Gunmen yesterday baton the wages office of a British Steel Corporation plant at Stanton and Staveley Barrow Hill, near Derbyshire, and 77.

police later surmise that the men were thinking about the "inside, but the 1 when they were by Mrs Audrey 29, the astonished The house was completely unoccupied.

Waller, aged 51, of Westerfield, head of apartment of Barrow "There was a terrible door caved in, hearing yellow industrial helmets burst into the had a pistol. All s about £300 in 50p

Tory backing for sharing  
of resources and teachers

By Our Education Correspondent

Most parents who send their children to private schools are the rich, but the means who are making sacrifices for the welfare of their children, Mr Norman St John-Stevas, MP, opposition spokesman on education and science, said in London yesterday.

He welcomed the recent policy statement by the Independent Schools Joint Committee for cooperation and the sharing of teachers and resources with state schools.

He said he would be meeting leaders of the former independent schools soon to see whether they could agree on a plan for parents to pay for places at independent schools according to their means under a state-assisted scheme.

He hoped more independent schools would take the initiative in sharing their buildings

and teachers with local maintained schools. He would like to see it made easier for teachers to transfer from private to state schools. The one bureaucratic obstacle was that it had often meant a teacher's taking a drop in salary and starting at the bottom in a probationary year.

The system by which the Department of Education and Science recognized some independent schools as efficient should be continued. There had been reports that inspections leading to recognition would be abandoned. That would be a big step backwards.

He did not believe that a war between the two sectors of schooling was desirable. The Conservative Party wanted the closest cooperation in the interests of all the children concerned. He urged the Government to drop its hostility to private schools.

Navy abandons  
scheme to  
improve missile

By Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy has been forced to abandon a missile improvement programme to accommodate some of the £100m cut in the defence budget for 1977-78.

The missile is Ikara, the anti-submarine system developed by Australia and used by the Royal Navy in the cruiser Bristol and eight Leander class frigates. No figures are available for the amount saved.

Ikara flies to a submarine and drops a homing torpedo for the final strike.

Britain has been financing a development programme for a "stretched Ikara", a longer-range version to be armed with the lightweight torpedo, due to enter service in naval helicopters, aircraft and warships in the 1980s. About £300,000 has been spent on the programme.

The decision does not affect development of the lightweight torpedo, which will still be needed.

Navy abandons  
scheme to  
improve missile

By Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy has been forced to abandon a missile improvement programme to accommodate some of the £100m cut in the defence budget for 1977-78.

The missile is Ikara, the anti-submarine system developed by Australia and used by the Royal Navy in the cruiser Bristol and eight Leander class frigates. No figures are available for the amount saved.

Ikara flies to a submarine and drops a homing torpedo for the final strike.

Britain has been financing a development programme for a "stretched Ikara", a longer-range version to be armed with the lightweight torpedo, due to enter service in naval helicopters, aircraft and warships in the 1980s. About £300,000 has been spent on the programme.

The decision does not affect development of the lightweight torpedo, which will still be needed.

## Natum to colleges on foreign students

aid of The Times Education Supplement

Technicians financed by London Education have been instructed to reduce the numbers of their students or reduce staff.

ing, in a letter EA to the heads of unies of North London, City of London, City of South Bank, has rejected by two wards.

the four polytechnic ILEA representatives at the same previous academic standstill was the first phase of an to reduce the of foreign students

at colleges aided or maintained by the authority from 25 per cent to 10 per cent by 1982.

The confidential ILEA letter states: "The authority is bound to regard cooperation in implementing its policy as a condition of grant, and the block grants and related staffing establishments for the 1977-78 session already negotiated with the authority's officers will be approved on that basis."

"Further reductions in teaching staff would follow if the reduction in enrolments were not made."

The Central London Polytechnic increased the number of its overseas students from 885 in 1975-76 to 931 this year. It has been told to cut that number by 110 in the next academic ses-

sion or face a reduction of three posts.

Its academic council has said that it would support the ILEA in approaching the Government about overseas students. But it said the ILEA policy was unacceptable.

Students are occupying the college's administrative offices, hoping to influence the government towards formally rejecting the proposal.

The City of London Polytechnic's academic council has accepted a students' resolution rejecting the ultimatum. It has been told to reduce overseas numbers by 50 to 447, and risks losing two teaching posts.

The polytechnics of the South Bank and North London will discuss the directive next month.

"Basil...who's that talking to Aléc?"



KP

The lovable nuts.



## WEST EUROPE

# Chief judge dismissed in Baader-Meinhof trial for showing bias

From Dan van der Var  
Bonn, Jan 20

The presiding judge in the Baader-Meinhof terrorism trial, the most controversial criminal case in West Germany, was today declared by his fellow judges to be biased and was discharged.

This astonishing development, exactly 20 months to the day since the trial began in a specially fortified courtroom at Stammheim, Stuttgart, comes as an even greater shock than the suicide in prison of a principal defendant, Ulrike Meinhof, last May.

The judge, Dr. Theodor Prinz, 57, was seated from the presidency by his eight colleagues on the second panel of criminal judges at the Baden-Württemberg state high court. He will take no further part in the case.

Ten days ago Judge Albrecht Meyer, the Federal judge who would have dealt with any appeal in the case, was relieved of this duty after a complaint that he had infringed a judge's duty of confidentiality.

Today's dismissal was the result of a motion alleging prejudice on the part of Dr. Prinz, lodged earlier today by a lawyer defending another principal accused, Andreas Baader. It was the eighth such motion against the judge in 174 court days since the trial began on May 20, 1975.

The deputy president of the court, Judge Eberhard Fock, who took over from Dr. Prinz immediately, said in giving the ruling of the court that it was not a question of whether Dr. Prinz was biased or felt himself to be so.

It was much more a case of reasonable doubt among the defendants about his impartiality being justified. Dr. Prinz's remark to a lawyer in the case that the court's attitude to a discharge motion on grounds of bias depended on which defence lawyer lodged it—the grounds for today's defence complaint—inevitably meant that the accused could doubt his impartiality.

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The crowd of about 5,000, with thousands more craning the narrow streets in the old quarter cheered as the flag was raised to mark the beginning of the city's festival.

People waving the Basque flag and pro-independence placards, many of them standing on balconies round the square, shouted so loud and for so long that the nervous-looking mayor was unable to make his short speech.

He tried to quieten the crowd by waving his hands but gave up and eventually raised both hands in the "V" victory sign together with the rest of the crowd. Book in the square still bore the signs of recent attacks by right-wing extremists.

Not a single riot policeman or civil guard was in the square when the flag was raised just after midnight. A crowd of a club band thumping drums and playing brass instruments marched into the square in red and blue uniforms playing the San Sebastián hymn. Youths, who earlier had gone wild on the platform frantically waving flags and urging on the crowd,

remained there to see their dream come true.

After the flag was hoisted, some of the crowd broke into chanting: "Basque flag yes, Spanish flag no", voicing the aspirations of those who want complete independence and not just autonomy from the Spanish state. The crowd jumped up and down shouting: "Anyone who does not jump is a fascist." Everyone jumped.

The shouting of pro-independence slogans, waving of placards and tooting of car horns went on into the small hours of today. No incidents with the police were reported.

Harry Debelius writes from Madrid: Political tension dominated the news in Spain today with the civil governors of two Basque provinces resigning in protest against the announcement of widespread use of the Basque flag, symbol of home rule aspirations.

The governors of Vizcaya and Guipuzcoa, the two coastal provinces of the Basque country, resigned in their resignations yesterday, according to reports published in Madrid.

## WEST EUROPE

# Debre attack on direct elections to Strasbourg

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Jan 20

On the same day that Mr. Edward Heath, the former Conservative leader, put in yet another forceful plea for direct elections to the European Parliament, M. Michel Debré, the former French Prime Minister, described the plan as "ill-conceived, ill-prepared, unclear in its consequences and, as such, an intolerable attack on the independence of the republic".

Mr. Heath spoke at the presentation ceremony of the Adolf Benckard Prize, awarded for the most notable contribution to European union, to M. Jean Monnet, the "father of Europe". M. Monnet, who is 87, was not present at the ceremony because of his delicate state of health, but the prize was received by his daughter.

Mr. Heath stated: "Only when the people of Europe know that they have direct representation in the European Assembly will they feel that the community is aligning itself more closely with their needs and aspirations."

Mr. Heath acknowledged that over the last two years, the European Community has lost its momentum. The high hopes held of enlargement have not been fulfilled. We have made all too little progress along the path outlined at the meeting of heads of government in Paris in October, 1975.

"The establishment of a new Commission, under a new president, a new chairman of the Council of Ministers, a new chairman of the European Council, can enable us psychologically, as well as politically and practically, to make a fresh start," he stated.

He suggested that while economic and monetary union were out of reach, the Community should concentrate "on rectifying the existing imbalances which have prevented us so far from achieving it."

It should in the meantime, he said, be able to move forward in the formulation of a common foreign policy, and develop its common procurement for the defence services.

But in the political field, he said, "a challenge more urgent or more real than the need for direct elections. Our purpose must be jointly to create a more democratic Community."

M. Debré, the former Gaullist Prime Minister, who announced the creation of a "committee for the independence of France", headed by prominent personalities from politics, literature and journalism, emphasized that the adoption of proportional representation for the European elections would bring about a new "Europe des patries, but a Europe des partis."

These elections could turn out to be "the third ballot of presidential elections for an unsuccessful candidate who might be tempted to head a list for European elections."

The error, in his view, was to dig up a provision of a treaty signed 20 years ago and try to apply it at a time when the Community was falling apart, and was increasingly dominated, economically and monetarily, by West Germany.

The climax, in his view, between the creation of a Community of European nations, each preserving intact their independence and sovereignty, which did not exclude a practical solidarity in many fields; and a European ideology and theology, if the latter prevailed, France would become the Quebec of Europe.

"We are Europeans," he added, "but the first contribution we can make to the power and grandeur of Europe is the power and grandeur of the French Republic."

As it was impossible to drop the idea of direct elections at this stage, which would have been preferable, he proposed the signing of an additional protocol to the Rome Treaty specifying that the sole competent authority in the Community was the European Council of heads of government, "the sole expression of national legitimacy."

"An end must be put to the ambiguity of a Commission, which is not a government, responsible to an Assembly which is not representative," he declared.

Our Political Editor writes: Leading opponents of British membership of the EEC, in a concert with M. Debré, yesterday launched a campaign in the Commons against any Government Bill later this month to provide for direct election of the European Parliament in May or June next year.

Mr. Bryan Gould, Labour MP for Southampton, Test, challenged the argument that there was a British commitment to direct elections to the European Parliament under Article 138 of the Treaty of Rome or as a consequence of the referendum on EEC entry. The decision rested with Parliament at Westminster.

## WEST EUROPE

# Criticism of decision to stand for mayor of Paris

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Jan 20

M. Jacques Chirac has thrown down the gauntlet with a vengeance. The surprise decision last night of the former Prime Minister and chairman of the Gaullist Rassemblement to stand for mayor of Paris in March is a challenge to the left but even more so, to President Giscard d'Estaing.

The President had given his official blessing two months ago to the candidature of M. Michel d'Ornano, the Minister of Industry and one of his intimates, against strong Gaullist opposition, and renewed it only on Monday.

Mr. Chirac claimed tonight that it was absurd to pretend that he was attacking the President or the Government by standing in Paris. "I support the Government appointed by the President and will continue to do so," he told reporters.

Although the Elysee Palace has refused all comment, M. Barre, the Prime Minister today strongly condemned M. Chirac's initiative which is also a direct affront to his authority as the leader of the majority in the electoral college.

"While taking note of his entire support for the Government economic recovery plan," M. Barre said, "I expressed to him my fears that this initiative would provoke a deep division of the majority. Our recovery can be endangered by electoral clashes which would undermine the climate of confidence our country needs."

La Scala man to head Italian broadcasting

From Our Own Correspondent  
Rome, Jan 20

The newly appointed board of directors of the Italian state broadcasting corporation, RAI, today chose as its chairman Signor Paolo Grassi, who is at present superintendent of La Scala, Milan, Italy's most famous opera house.

Signor Grassi has ruled the difficult La Scala empire since February, 1972. Before that he spent 25 years as director, in partnership with Signor Giorgio Strehler, of the Piccolo Teatro, Milan. He is by far the most experienced and respected chairman RAI has had.

His reputation as an impresario of European stature and his energetic personality are expected to bring a new atmosphere to RAI, which is beginning to feel the effects of internal reform after years of narrowly political leadership.

# Schmidt talks in London to focus on finance

From Our Own Correspondent  
Bonn, Jan 20

The talks between Mr. Helmut Schmidt, the German Chancellor, and the West German Finance Minister, are likely to be dominated by financial questions, as the commission of Herr Schmidt's team shows.

He will be accompanied not only by Herr Genscher, the Foreign Minister, but also by Herr Auel, the Finance Minister, and by Herr Leber, the Defence Minister.

The West Germans expect the British side to press for an expansion of the West German economy to help world—and thus British—trade, and also for British support for the German Army of the Rhine, Anglo-German cooperation on tank construction may also come up.

Bonn, Jan 20.—Mr. Crossland, the Foreign Secretary, tonight strongly reaffirmed Britain's commitment to Nato and to Western defence arrangements for West Berlin despite Britain's current economic difficulties.

"Our commitment to the British Army of the Rhine, and to Nato, is firm," he said in a television broadcast recorded in London for broadcast in West Germany.

He described Nato as a very high priority for Britain. Of the Rhine Army, he said with emphasis: "Whatever economic difficulties there might be we have a part to play. The Army is there, that is the fact, that is irrevocable. On that we are absolutely firm."

## WEST EUROPE

# 44 injured by cloud of poisonous gas

From Our Own Correspondent  
Aachen, Jan 20

Poisonous gas escaping from a factory in Aachen today killed at least 44 people before the drifting cloud started dispersing on the Dutch border.

German police followed the cloud in helicopters until late today as it drifted at an altitude of 1,600ft and moved into the Dutch province of Limburg, spreading gradually to a diameter of six miles.

Police said the fumes were created when metal plant workers in the Aachen suburb of Stolberg erroneously began piping nitric acid from a railway tank car into a vat of sulphuric acid.—AP.

# Portuguese to get more arms from Nato

From Our Own Correspondent  
Lisbon, Jan 20

Portugal will be receiving additional arms equipment from Nato on account of its "special situation," General Alexander Haig, the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, indicated here today at the end of a two-day visit.

He refused to give any details of the arms or to answer reporters' questions about whether Portugal is now fully participating in all Nato activities. Modern arms and equipment supplied to Portugal since the 1974 revolution have come from the United States and West Germany.

He implied that France would agree to the city's representatives at the European Assembly appointed by the House of Representatives—not elected directly—the way the West Berlin members of the Bundestag are.

Listening to M. de Guiringaud was Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister. The two ministers left the assembly hall together and later met again for lunch at the Charlottenburg Castle.

M. de Guiringaud's official visit is the first by a French Foreign Minister to the city.

# France reaffirms Berlin links

From Gretel Spitzer  
Berlin, Jan 20

In his address to West Berlin's House of Representatives today, M. Louis de Guiringaud, the French Foreign Minister, emphasized his country's commitment to the divided city. His visit should demonstrate the sympathy of France for Berlin and also the awareness of her responsibilities, he said.

M. de Guiringaud, who did not mention the Soviet Union by name, reminded the Eastern side of its rights and responsibilities for all of Berlin, and also reminded the Germans of the limits of the quadripartite agreement, for instance in connection with full voting powers

for the West German Bundesrat, which were denied to the Berliners by the Allies.

Regretting the necessity for such limits, M. de Guiringaud said: "But you also know that the freedom of the Western sectors of Berlin is based on the quadripartite law which makes a distinction between the entire city and the former zones of occupation."

"To the extent to which the three powers effectively exercised supreme power in the west of the city, they are in the position to bring to bear their power on the international level if it is a question of safeguarding your well being and your security."

M. de Guiringaud said France expected Berlin to participate

## OVERSEAS

# Mr Richard warns Salisbury not to reject peace plan

From Michael Knappe  
Salisbury, Jan 20

Mr. Ivor Richard, the British envoy, arrived here today saying that rejection by Rhodesia of Britain's proposals for a transitional multiracial government would create a "grave" situation.

However, there were no signs of the Rhodesian Government deviating from its publicly stated view that the proposals are unacceptable and the adjourned constitutional conference in Geneva was a failure.

Mr. Richard's arrival coincided with a meeting of the ruling Rhodesian Front's parliamentary caucus at which, according to informed sources, a firm decision was taken either to repeal or at least drastically amend the controversial Land Tenure Act, which is the basis of most of Rhodesia's racially discriminatory legislation and an emotive cornerstone of Rhodesian Front policy.

The three-hour meeting was reported to have been stormy and ended with only a brief, unresolving statement.

It said the caucus had reiterated that there could be no deviation from the "Anglo-American package deal" for a constitutional settlement and that there was a "far-ranging discussion on the subject of removing racial discrimination during which it was accepted that further efforts should be made in this regard."

The statement added that Mr. Smith, the Prime Minister, would address the nation within the next few days. He is expected to give his reasons for rejecting the detailed British proposals and to give some indication of his own plans for an internal settlement of the constitutional issue.

It is believed he will seek to implement the Kissinger proposals by means of an accommodation with the nationalist faction led by Abel Muzorewa, and formed the Zimbabwe People's Organisation, which is led by Mr. Smith's former ally, Mr. Smith.

When he arrived, Richard displayed a mixture of the outcome of his initial visit, all the so-called "African" press given him "the assurance of an act of government that will stop" and the guarded "rather than" the carrying as the basis of negotiation.

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# Richard W. SEAS sbury not ject peace ite Catholic schools enge apartheid y of South Africa

has Ashford is the first religious body to take this step. Church leaders today were at pains to emphasize that in so doing they were not deliberately trying to defy the law or the Government.

"We are not out for confrontation, but this is a matter for conscience," said Mgr J. P. Galvin, the Vicar-General of the Catholic Archdiocese of Cape Town. "The Catholic bishops have pointed out that all people have a right to education, and Christian education."

The total number of black and Coloured pupils at Catholic schools will not be known for several weeks until school registers have been completed. But it is expected that the figures will show a significant increase in the number of black and Coloured children living in their own townships which are usually situated a long way from white areas.

## Party split weakens ition to Mr Vorster

merger, arguing that the party would be dominated by the more liberal-inclined PRP. In particular, they feared—correctly it would appear—that the merger would lead to an abandonment of the UP's traditional belief in the need for white leadership in South Africa. The six will now sit on the cross benches.

In theory their departure should mean the way is clear for the merger to go ahead. However, a new obstacle has been thrown up by Mr Colin Eglin, leader of the PRP, who is refusing to disband his party as a precondition to forming the new opposition group. The PRP's caucus has also expressed reservations about what it regards as the UP's right-wing interpretation placed by the UP on the Marais committee principles.

The split in the UP, the fourth in the party's history, has naturally delighted Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, who can now look forward to an easy passage in next week's important "no confidence" debate. He described the situation in the party as being like "the demise of a very sick person, a process which is not yet finished."

## Crash dive pilot tried to kill airline workers

Melbourne, Jan 20.—Police today released a suicide note from a British pilot who crashed his stolen aircraft into a telephone building at Alice Springs, killing himself and three others.

In the note, Colin Forman, aged 23, said his death was intended to kill and maim as many employees as possible of an airline which had dismissed him.

The letter was posted the day before he stole a twin-engine Beechcraft belonging to the Ord Charter Company at Wyndham in Western Australia and crashed it into the administrative offices of Conair Ltd at Alice Springs, 700 miles away.

He accused employees of Conair, the firm which had dismissed him, of being responsible for his "misery and degradation". He had also been dismissed by the Ord Company.

Police said the note showed Forman intended to dive into the building's eastern corner during take-off when it would have been crowded with employees. But he miscalculated and arrived 10 minutes after the break was over.

The control tower heard him shouting "it is better to die with honour than to live with dishonour" over his radio as he began the dive. The three people killed included Mr Roger Connellan, 32-year-old son of Conair's chairman and founder.—Reuter.

## Police close newspaper in Thailand

Bangkok, Jan 20.—The Daily News, Thailand's second biggest newspaper, was closed by the police today for publishing articles critical of a senior official in the military-controlled Government.

The paper was banned for an indefinite period for two articles critical of Mr Samak Sundaravej, the Interior Minister, last Saturday and Monday. The articles followed televised remarks by the minister criticizing the newspaper.

Police said the newspaper could appeal against the ban within two weeks. It is the third Thai newspaper to be closed by the Government in recent months.

## British error over arms sale ship

Embassy should have known better. It is widely known that the Governor of Tokyo (Mr Ryokichi Minobe) is left-wing and opposes any form of military activity.

"Mr Minobe controls the city and port under powers vested in local authorities. His views are widely known. He has prohibited our own Self Defence Force from parading in Tokyo. Everyone knows this is a fact."

The source went on to state that the Foreign Ministry had submitted the British request to the Metropolitan Government in conformity with protocol. But he added: "We were amazed. We realized that Mr Minobe would have adverse reactions."

In an official statement today, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "There was a sounding from the British Embassy in Tokyo in December about the possibility of sending a support vessel here to exhibit arms off Tokyo harbour."

"Today we received an answer from the Metropolitan Government. The reply was negative. The Foreign Ministry will now consult other government agencies to establish how we will handle this case."

The spokesman, Mr Kensuke Yanagiya, said that other naval vessels had been allowed to enter Tokyo port in the past but the Japanese Government had never been asked to sanction open exhibition of arms before.

When asked whether the British request had placed the Japanese Government in an embarrassing position, Mr Yanagiya replied: "Not necessarily. Friendly countries can make any soundings. Then we can see what we do."

Answering further questions, suggesting that the British Government could have been more discreet in its attempt to sell arms to Japan, Mr Yanagiya said: "I should answer that question when the Government makes a decision over the request in the near future."



Riot police stand guard near the Interior Ministry in Cairo, during the riots in protest at subsequently cancelled price increases.

## Most people exist in misery, sustained by family ties and victory assurances Nostalgia for Nasser as Egypt's poor get poorer

From Robert Fisk  
Cairo, Jan 20

It was a secret policeman who unwittingly indicated one of the reasons for President Sadat's sudden political crisis. He had been standing with a uniformed police commander, watching the advancing crowd near the American University and talking into a two-way radio, when he caught sight of us at the side of the road.

He walked over and, fraudulently claiming to be an employee of American Express, suggested that we left the area. "It is dangerous for you here," he said with a shepherding movement of his left arm, "and those people are unimportant. They are just trash."

We asked if he seriously believed the people were eigneers. "Well," he replied, "they may be Egyptians, but they are still trash. It was a comment that would not have surprised Cairo's poor."

Any inquiries to the Government or the police or any discussion of the city's chronic poverty over dinner with families in the quiet suburbs of Heliopolis or Zamalek elicit the same kind of reply: that most people support Mr Sadat, that they are benefiting from Egypt's pro-Western economic policies, and that any violence is instigated by communists or Marxists or men who are agents of a foreign power.

They remind you that the Egyptian Government pays more than £800m in food subsidies; that the country's official recognized inflation rate of 35 per cent only began four years ago; and that, given time for foreign investment to make its mark, the 38 million population will gradually acquire more per capita wealth.

This could sound a reasonable argument until a factory hand or a low grade clerk displays the complicated system of tickets and passes required to obtain the meagre quantities of subsidized food.

In a family of seven, for instance, government permits allow a subsidy on one kilogram of rice, one kilogram of sugar and half a kilogram of cooking oil a person each month as well as some cheap bread and tea. The rice costs 5p, the sugar 14p and the cooking oil 8p. But after receiving the allowance a man or woman pays the full rate for his rice, sugar and cooking oil for the rest of the month—13p, 22p and 20p respectively.

Workers in Egypt customarily eat five times a day: but they eat bread to keep away hunger and otherwise consume about the same quantity of food in 24 hours as a Briton might take for tea.

In Cairo—where an estimated 90 per cent of the 8,500,000 population are on the poverty line with an average wage of £46 a month and where their lives are made desperate by chaotic transport, homelessness, unemployment, staggering bureaucracy and dirt—most people exist in misery, sustained only by their family ties and the eternal patriotic assurance that they were the victors of the great "war of Ramadan".

But memories of the war are becoming as scratched and faded as the old newsreel film of the 1973 crossing of the Suez Canal which the state television service still broadcasts regularly. As those days of military victory recede, and as physical conditions have grown worse, so the wealth of 10 per cent of Cairo's population seems to have grown larger and more ostentatious.

Limousines, their tinted windows, drive nightly towards the Giza nightclubs, while every evening at about 8 pm the cavernous marble hallway of the Nile Hilton hotel fills with the sound of gongs and cymbals, for it is every middle class Egyptian girl's dream to celebrate her wedding with expensive festivities.

Mr Sadat himself held an opulent function on the lawns of the presidential residence when his daughter married the son of his former Construction Minister earlier this month; the belly dancer and the presence of Mr Omar Sharif cost nothing, according to official sources. But outside the walls of most of the expensive hotels in the city, there is camped an army of poor, ready to beg or cajole for a few piastres.

What has particularly annoyed the factory workers and slum dwellers, and the students, is not so much the existence of such wealth but the apparent disregard for them who live in poverty. The rich and the middle class (who are unpleasantly referred to as "white Egyptians") are popularly believed to have been the only class to benefit from Mr Sadat's American-oriented economic policies, although no big American firm has settled in Egypt.

Since the top 10 per cent are also by definition the administrators, the population of Cairo wonders why they have permitted the city to collapse. Overpopulation is treated as a fact of life and there is a good example of this.

Some weeks ago, Mr Sadat twice stopped his official car in crowded streets to give lifts to pedestrians who were walking to work along the crumbling pavements. The Cairo newspapers placed this news on their front page.

Yet earlier this month two commuters, trains, so overcrowded that many passengers were clinging to the outside fittings of the carriages, passed each other on a bend in the track near the suburb of Mariut. Nine passengers were wiped off the sides and killed while 15 more were terribly injured. Yet the incident was only a few paragraphs in the press.

The riots of the past two days, therefore, were as predictable as they were fierce. The poor are getting poorer and they look back beyond the last Middle East war to the days of Nasser, when the rich suffered to alleviate their poverty and when the President was seen as a common man, speaking colloquial Arabic and shaking off real and imagined serfdom.

Mr Sadat, although he likes to be seen in his galibiah, the traditional Arab smock, in villages in his home province of Minufiya, has little immediate popular appeal. His ripe-smoking meetings with European politicians and American senators are alien to many of his people.

Cynics wonder whether his great experiment in democracy—the creation of two independent political parties last year—was not merely an attempt to provide a safety-valve against revolution rather than the introduction of a new climate of popular democracy.

Perhaps he can persuade the Saudis to pay 75 per cent of his £1,000m military bill each year, as Mr Tewfik al Hakim, the respected Al-Ahram columnist, suggested today. Perhaps he can persuade the United States to increase its \$250m (£147m) food grant.

The Army still supports Mr Sadat, although one riot policeman guarding the Hilton yesterday said he earned just £15 a month. The police, one student said, are only the poor in uniform. But unless President Sadat can solve his domestic problems, there will be more unrest in Egypt.

He is safe in power at the moment only because the population prefers a leader—Nasser—who happens to be dead.

## Mr Bhutto's unopposed reelection 'was rigged'

From Our Correspondent  
Rawalpindi, Jan 20

Mr Bhutto's unopposed reelection to the National Assembly on the strength of having been the sole candidate to lodge nomination papers in his home constituency of Larkana, in the Sind, was publicly challenged today.

At a Karachi press conference today Mr Asghar Khan, president of Tehrik-i-Insaf party and leader of the nine-party opposition front formed to fight the March 7 general elections, claimed that the prospective opposition candidate in Larkana, Maulana Jan Muhammad Abbasi, was kidnapped from his home on Monday night and taken to Rawalpindi for the lodging of nomination papers had ended.

This was the first claim of attempted electoral rigging.

But Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the Sind Chief Minister, today described the Opposition's allegation of kidnapping as "a concoction in order to cover its frustration over the unopposed election of the Prime Minister." He claimed that Maulana Abbasi had lodged nomination papers in another constituency in Sind, Newabshah.

However, apart from Mr Asghar Khan, four other leaders of the Opposition front, the Pakistan National Alliance, claimed last night that Maulana Abbasi was abducted by police on Monday to prevent him from opposing Mr Bhutto in his home constituency.

Mr Asghar Khan told the press conference: "If the police are unfair the people of Pakistan will certainly not accept them."

## Ethiopian force 'wiped out' by guerrillas

Khartoum, Jan 20.—Two Ethiopian soldiers who surrendered to Sudanese border police after escaping from a battle with Eritrean guerrillas have described the situation in their country as "very bad".

The Sudanese news agency reported here yesterday.

The two men were quoted as saying they had fled to the border after a battle at Umm Hagar in Eritrea, Ethiopia's rebel northern province. They said their battalion was trying to make for Tessenet on the Sudan border, but was wiped out by the guerrillas.

Their escape to Sudan follows reports that 96 Ethiopian soldiers took refuge across the border last Sunday.

The incidents come during a period of strain between Ethiopia and Sudan, after allegations by President Nimeiry of Sudan that Ethiopia is harbouring anti-Sudanese elements and helping to train "various troops" in camps inside Ethiopia.

Ethiopian Government troops are being harassed by guerrillas of the London-based Ethiopian Democratic Union which is demanding a return to civilian rule and the establishment of a parliamentary democracy.—Agence France Presse.

## West Bank call for inquiry into Arab jail deaths

From Eric Marsden  
Jerusalem, Jan 20

Leaders of Red Crescent societies in the occupied West Bank have called for an investigation into the deaths of four Arab prisoners in Israeli jails during the past two years. They are also urging the setting up of a committee of Arab leaders to study grievances which led to the five-week hunger strike by prisoners at Ashkelon jail, south of Tel Aviv.

The hunger strike, which set off sympathy strikes at other prisons, was officially declared to have ended yesterday, but Arab sources claim that some prisoners are still refusing food.

Sit-in demonstrations were held in West Bank towns today as part of "prisoners' day".

Yesterday 50 Red Crescent leaders called at the International Red Cross office in Jerusalem and presented a petition calling for improved prison discipline.

## Indonesia lifts ban

Singapore, Jan 20.—Indonesia has lifted its year-old entry ban on Mr Bruce Wilson, the South-east Asia Correspondent of the Melbourne Herald-Sun, who is based in Singapore. He was accused of bias in his reporting of the fighting in Timor.

## Tibet dinosaur fossils

Hongkong, Jan 20.—Chinese scientists have discovered a number of dinosaur fossils 13,779ft above sea level in Tibet, the New China news agency reported today. The oldest were said to be 160 million years old.

**ADVERTISEMENT**

As mentioned in the FLESTAC Report in The Times on 18th January, here are the vacancies in the Federal Republic of Nigeria

**NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY**

**VACANCIES**

The National Electric Power Authority responsible for generation, transmission and distribution of electric power throughout the Federal Republic of Nigeria requires for immediate appointment the following categories of persons:

- (i) Engineers (Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Protection, Control and Metering)
- (ii) Technologists (Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Protection, Control and Metering)
- (iii) Technicians (Electrical, Mechanical and Civil)
- (iv) Surveyors
- (v) Architects
- (vi) Accountants/Auditors
- (vii) Systems Analysts/Programmers
- (viii) Senior Executive Officers (Accounts) and Higher Executive Officers (Accounts)

For (i) above, applicants must possess a good university degree in Electrical, Mechanical or Civil Engineering or an equivalent professional qualification registrable with the Council of Registered Engineers of Nigeria.

Candidates for (ii) above must possess the Higher Technician Diploma in electrical, mechanical or civil engineering, or its equivalent.

Candidates for (iii) above must possess the Ordinary Technician Diploma in Electrical, Mechanical or Civil Engineering, or its equivalent.

Candidates for the post of surveyor should possess a good university degree in Surveying or an equivalent professional qualification and must have acquired at least three years' post qualification relevant experience.

Candidates for the post of Architect must possess a good university degree in Architecture or an equivalent professional qualification, plus at least three years' post qualification relevant experience.

For positions (iv) above, candidates should hold a computer science degree from a recognized university.

In addition, candidates for the post of Systems Analyst must possess extensive programming and systems analysis experience using COBOL and/or FORTRAN in a business environment while candidates for the post of Programmer must be versatile in the use of COBOL and/or FORTRAN and IBM 360/370 DOS Software and be experienced in STRUCTURED or MODULAR programming. Applicants without such experience may be considered for TRAINEE appointments if they display sufficient aptitude and are adaptable to rapid development.

Candidates for the post of Senior Executive Officer (Accounts) must possess a good University Degree in Accounting or Parts I-IV of ACA, ACTA or ACMA with reasonable industrial experience while candidates for the post of Higher Executive Officer (Accounts) must possess Part I-III of the ACA, ACTA, ACMA, or Higher National Diploma in Accounting/Business Studies.

Applicants for the post of Safety Officer should possess a good University Degree in Engineering or Business Administration plus at least four years' post qualification experience, two of which must have been spent in promoting and organizing industrial safety in a large organization.

**REMUNERATION**

Salaries to be offered are attractive and will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

**CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

Appointment is for a fixed term of two years. The posts attract several fringe benefits such as leave grant and housing allowance. The Authority also endeavours to provide quarters but where this fails, appropriate housing allowance is paid in lieu. Other conditions of service will be as for Senior Employees of identical grade in the Authority.

**METHOD OF APPLICATION**

Applicants for Nigeria can obtain application forms from the Director of Personnel, Electricity Headquarters, 24/25 Marina Lagos, or any of the Authority's Directors of Operations/Directors of Distribution/District Managers/Underwriting Managers within the country. Applicants in Canada and the United States of America can obtain application forms from the office of the Nigeria High Commission, Canada, and Nigerian Embassy in Washington while applicants in the United Kingdom should obtain forms from the Resident Engineer, National Electric Power Authority London Office, Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1.

All completed application forms must reach the Director of Personnel, Electricity Headquarters, 24/25 Marina, Lagos, Nigeria, not later than Friday, February 11, 1977.



## US PRESIDENCY

# Recollection of another snowbound inauguration

## The Kennedy era left Americans suspicious of rhetoric

By Louis Heren

Washington was also snowbound when John F. Kennedy was sworn in as the thirty-fifth President of the United States 16 years ago, but nobody cared. Everybody was convinced that a brilliant new era was about to begin—well, perhaps a few Republicans and anti-papists were not quite so sure—and what was 16in of snow among the new Renaissance men and women?

That was the popular claim in those innocent days. The ridiculous Camelot myth was invented by Theodore White much later. Eighteenth-century Versailles also crept into some unhistoric minds, but again who cared?

One thing was absolutely certain. To quote the wife of John F. Kennedy, one of the Kennedy team, the union officers of the Second World War were taking over.

It did not matter that most of the Kennedy men had never heard a gun fired in anger. Kennedy was seen to be a war hero and every war veteran responded to the new President's call to arms.

Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch had been passed to a new generation of Americans—born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage, and unwilling to witness or permit the slow undoing of those rights to which this nation has always been committed, and to which we are committed today at home and around the world.

I read the address in the White House the night before, and thought that it was splendid stuff. The spirit of Agincourt if not of the Alamo. I had had to abandon a taxi in the Georgetown snow, but the stirring rhetoric made me forget my sudden shoes and trousers.

The night did not still the excitement, and the great and fashionable gathered before the east front of the Capitol to witness the inauguration.

We were indeed a happy band of brothers, and not so few.

Robert Frost read his poem, "The Land is ours," amended at Kennedy's request to emphasize its sentiments for a new generation of Americans. He also tried to read a dedi-



Mr Ford embraces his personal secretary, Miss Nell Yates, as he says farewell to the White House yesterday.

cation, but the sunlight reflecting off the pages, the brilliant new facade of the Capitol and the snow were too much for his poor old eyes.

Then came the inaugural address. Kennedy stood bareheaded and his Bostonian voice hard and determined, echoed round the plaza.

Every nation knows, whether it wishes it well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty. This much we pledge—and more.

I can remember the straightening of backs, mine included. It was a rebirth, a national renewal. After those stogy and inarticulate Eisenhower years the trail boss was saddling up to lead a nation of fresh pioneers to a New Frontier.

Little did we realize that Kennedy meant every word of it, and that the new frontier

would be sought in Berlin, the Bay of Pigs, the underground silos of inter-continental ballistic missiles and Vietnam. There were also a few good things to report before the end came at Dallas, the nuclear test ban treaty for instance, but Americans have since learnt to be suspicious of rhetoric.

They have learnt a great deal more in the intervening years—in the riot-ridden streets of their cities, in the paddy-fields of Vietnam, and the White House tapes. That wagon train which began to move 16 years ago has been depleted, hopes are not so high, and the trail boss might be more careful as he moves through Indian territory.

The next four years will, I hope, be not so exciting, but I shall always remember the 1961 inauguration. It proved that the American people can forget the past and respond to leadership. That is still very reassuring.

forces can be honourably marshalled.

We are a proudly idealistic nation, but let no one confuse our idealism with weakness.

Because we are free we can never be indifferent to the fate of freedom elsewhere. Our moral sense dictates a clear-cut preference for those societies which share with us an abiding respect for individual human rights. We do not seek to intimidate, but it is clear that a world which others can dominate with impunity would be inhospitable to decency and a threat to the well-being of all people.

The world is still engaged in a massive arms race designed to insure continuing equivalent strength among potential adversaries. We pledge perseverance and wisdom in our efforts to limit the world's armaments to those necessary for each nation's own domestic safety. We will move this year a step toward our ultimate goal—the elimination of all nuclear weapons from this earth.

We urge all other people to join us in our search for peace. Within us, the people of the United States, there is evident a serious and profound reluctance to confidence, and I join in the hope that when my time as your President has ended, people might say this about me: That we had remembered the words of Micah and renewed our search for humility, mercy and justice.

That we had torn down the barriers that separated those of different race and region and religion, and that we had been united, built unity, with a respect for diversity.

That we had found productive work for those able to perform it.

That we had strengthened the American family, which is the bedrock of our society.

That we had ensured respect for the law, and equal treatment under the law, for the weak and the powerful, the rich and the poor.

And that we had enabled our people to be proud of their own Government once again.

We had hoped that the nations of the world might say that we had built a lasting peace, based not on weapons of war but on the confidence and respect for our own most precious values.

These are not just my goals, but our common goals. And they will be the affirmations of our nation's continuing moral strength and our belief in an undiminished, ever-expanding American dream.

These are the goals that we need your help, and we need your wisdom. We need your active participation in a joint effort to move the reality of the world closer to the ideals of human freedom and dignity.

As friends, you can depend on the United States to be in the forefront of the search for world peace. You can depend on the United States to remain steadfast in its commitment to human freedom and liberty. And you can depend on the United States to be sensitive to your own concerns and aspirations, to welcome your advice, to do its utmost to resolve international differences in a spirit of cooperation.

The problems of the world will not be easily resolved. The well-being of each and every one of us—indeed our mutual survival—depends on their resolution. As President of the United States, I can assure you that we intend to do our part. I ask you to join us in a common effort based on mutual trust and mutual respect.

# The doctors' dilemma:

## How to cure society of a lifestyle that makes people ill

Ever since Renaissance anatomist Vesalius began the conversion of medicine from a magical skill to a natural science the body has been seen as an intricate and wonderful machine, but one well within the scope of human understanding. More recently—and certainly for the last 100 years—the role of medical science has been the study of defects in the body-machine and their repair. In retrospect, future generations may see this search for cures for our diseases as just as mistaken as the alchemists' belief in the philosophers' stone—and it has recently been challenged by two of our most eminent medical scientists, Sir Richard Doll and Professor Thomas McKeown.

Their conclusions (reached quite independently) is that most of the intellectual and financial effort being put into current medical research is being directed at the wrong objectives. The body is not a machine which from time to time needs servicing or repair: it should instead be seen as a creation to be preserved, as far as possible, in its original state of perfection. We are born well (or most of us are) and it is each individual's responsibility to maintain his body in a healthy state.

Our present misplaced faith in the ability of doctors to heal comes from a false interpretation of history. Professor McKeown's account of *The Role of Medicine* (Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust £3.25) shows that it has little claim to credit for the conquest of disease. The prevalence of fevers and plague for so much of human history was due to the combination of insufficient food, environmental hazards such as impure water, and overcrowding. Their decline was due to improved nutrition, better hygiene, and contraception. The contribution made by vaccines and drugs was negligible, with the exceptions of streptomycin for tuberculosis and immunization against polio.

Modern hospital medicine is highly effective in some areas: in particular it has virtually eliminated the former hazards of childbearing, it provides excellent treatment for accidental injuries, and operations on the eyes and ears can often restore sight and hearing. Yet the main killing and crippling diseases have remained resistant to all the advances of medical science: mortality from heart disease, stroke, and the common cancers has hardly altered since the Second World War. We have a whole range of modern drugs for rheumatism, arthritis, bronchitis and asthma, psoriasis and eczema, but they do not cure: they simply alleviate. Yet more and more expensive research effort is concentrated on further inquiry into the biochemical and microscopic defects responsible for these diseases. We have not yet learnt the lessons of history. Surely, says Professor McKeown, if we are to control and indeed eliminate diseases that kill and cripple we should look for their causes so that we can prevent them?

We may not understand the disease processes responsible for coronary thrombosis or stroke, but we do know a great deal about some of the factors in the western way of life that induce them. The same is true of cancer, as Sir Richard Doll explained in his lecture published earlier this month in the *Journal of Royal College of Physicians*. In addition to tobacco and alcohol there are over 20 other known specific causes of cancer—industrial chemicals, drugs, and food poisons—and Sir Richard believes that in time 80 per cent or more of all cancers will be traced to environmental poisons.

The most striking evidence in favour of that view is the vast difference in the frequency of different cancers in various parts of the world. The Japanese, for example, have high rates for stomach cancer and low rates for cancer of the

genital tract in women—unless they migrate to the United States, when within two generations their pattern of disease has changed to that in North America. Concentration of efforts on these aspects of cancer control, says Sir Richard, provide us with the key to the control of the disease.

What is needed, then, is a switch in emphasis—starting in medical schools but extending all forms of education—so that the deterrent of health are seen as behaviour, environment and nutrition rather than availability of care. We need to study which influences harm and then modify our life style to eliminate them.

Professor McKeown does not claim the task is easy, but he does offer some group optimism: personal habits can, he suggests, be modified by public action. We are too much of the kind required may take generations. But already there are signs of change. Smoking is becoming socially unacceptable and more sections of society, and in of family size, once thought an inevitable restraint of human nature, has become a behaviour in much of the world.

Society assumes that we are ill and make in fact it is nearer to the truth that we are and are made ill. As the truth pe through, there is a danger that all advances made in medical science are rejected, and this would be as foolish as the former unquestioning faith. Technology has a great deal to offer, as in repair surgery; but the key to health changes in life style, not in new and complex remedies.

Dr Tony Medical Corre

# Balancing up the credits and debits of joining the cashless society

The Consumers' Association, in a recent edition of *Which?* pointed out that although credit cards were a convenient way of paying they were also a way of getting into debt.

Although "plastic money" has become an integral part of the consumer spending boom and in spite of the fact that in Britain one adult in eight possesses a credit card, they are still viewed with awe by many, and with downright suspicion by some. The consumer will ensure that for some time, at any rate, Britain will not achieve the so-called American ideal of not being able to pay with cash at all.

Leaving aside individual store cards and schemes run by big hotel chains, I have been examining the operations and usefulness of the four true credit cards: Barclaycard, Access, Diners Club and American Express.

The first two are run by British clearing banks, the others by individual companies. Barclaycard has 3,400,000 holders, three quarters of whom were 10 years old in June. Access, which has about three million holders, was launched in 1972 by the other clearing banks: National Westminster, Midland, Lloyds and their smaller subsidiaries.

Diners Club was started in 1950 in America and went public in Britain in 1964. The old

Westminster Bank took a 49 per cent stake in 1965. There are 180,000 cardholders in Britain. American Express cardholders within 25 days thereafter the holder must pay at least 15 or 15 per cent of what he owes, whichever is the greater. Interest on cash withdrawals (up to £30) is charged immediately. If the holder does not pay, reminders are sent, then the card is withdrawn and finally legal action may be taken to recover the outstanding debt.

If the consumer should lose his card, he is liable for the first £25 of fraudulent use before Barclaycard or Access can inform the bank. Once informed, the card companies are liable. Diners Club holds the consumer liable for the first £30 of fraudulent use, but once it is informed of the loss or theft the company becomes liable. For 50p a year it will insure the holder against liability.

American Express holds the consumer liable for the first £20 before notification. Barclaycard has 90,000 outlets in Britain where a consumer may use his card, including hotels, restaurants, garages, shops and airline offices. The monthly fee for Access number 96,000 for Diners Club about 17,000 and for American Express 20,000. The outlets pay a commission of between 2 and 7 per cent.

Barclaycard and Access charge interest of 2 per cent a

month on outstanding balances, which is increased to 2 1/2 per cent on cash withdrawals. All four impose a service charge of between 3 per cent and 7 per cent. Failure to pay the monthly account to Diners Club or American Express incur a charge of 1 1/2 per cent while they are setting about withdrawing the card facility.

Statistics from the Inter-Bank Research Organization show that of all personal sector transactions in this country over a 12-month period, 44 per cent accounted for 94 per cent of cheques for 4 per cent and credit cards for 0.16 per cent. Of all payments by bank account holders, cash still accounted for 88 per cent, cheques for 8 per cent and credit cards for 0.44 per cent.

In the area in which credit cards could be expected to have their largest share of the market—payments of between £5.50 and £24.50 by those who had bank accounts—cash accounted for 42 per cent of payments, cheques for 44 per cent and credit cards for 2 per cent. In each case there was an "other" category to bring totals up to 100 per cent.

That is some indication of the reserved manner in which most cardholders use their credit facility. Barclaycard says that of its 3,400,000 holders, only 1,500,000 use their cards on a monthly basis. Of these, 33 per cent pay their accounts fully on

demand each month. The third use their cards for term credit facilities, a two-to-three-month payment scheme.

The rest of the 1 are long-term credit and are always in debt about £70 on average. Barclaycard remains confident that the public "is rather than profligate" than 0.5 per cent of its on loan proves to be debt.

Barclaycard reached its even point after five years enjoyed 36 months of profitability until, in December 1973, it was plunged into red by the Government restrictions. The company recovering from that is Access, though all companies are apprehensive about the likely business of the all-embracing Consumer Credit Act.

For the consumer, credit cards are a con way of borrowing much cheaply than hire purchase. The financial Mr Hyde can bring serious debt a

stable disaster. The In figures suggest the British consumer is well off the peril.

John G Consumer Corre

# Why the Armed Forces are losing the bureaucratic battle over indexed pensions

In the current debate on pensions "the bureaucrats" have provided a convenient Aunt Sally. The salient principles of the 1971 Act, however, apply to many other categories, among whom are the Armed Forces. Their position needs to be examined in perspective, and for that purpose the Army provides an appropriate example.

At one period in the Second World War, when serving as a staff officer in the adjutant general's department, it was my lot to be deeply involved in attempts to seek justice as regards pensions—as well as pay and allowances—for all ranks, serving and retired.

The plight of many elderly retired regular officers who had served this country well during the First World War was serious, and their widows had been reduced below the Seebohm Rowntree's meagre poverty line by the policies of successive administrations. For the best part of a quarter of a century there had for most of them been no real change from the days typified by a subaltern's pay of 55p a day. I doubt if many would support such lack of change today.

The pay of the Army is split into most decades to lag behind that of members of militant trade unions, of salaried middle management and of the self-employed. Unlike the first named, they cannot take industrial action, and unlike the two latter they cannot avoid the constraints of a pay policy by switching jobs (sprouting into the £10,000 a year class) with the aid of "head hunters" or by raising their fees. Moreover, unlike tycoons, pop stars, and high grade professional men, they are unable to take their talents to a Channel Island or to some EEC country with less crushing taxation.

As relatively recently as 1970 Mr Hesley fairly stated "it is clear from a job evaluation exercise that the forces have been seriously underpaid in recent years". Whilst serving they

used to be—and, I gather, still are—taught, in the light of the way their pay is fixed, to regard their pension rights as a "dark horse" to be in normal times, and how today's crisis should be met.

The main links so far considered have been: the "parity" link. (Those retired in the 1950s or 1960s would get the same pension as those who retire today in the same rank.) This—the fairest—link has been consistently vetoed by the Treasury.

The "pay increase percentage" link. (Pensions increase annually by the same percentage as the pay increase in the rank.) This was rejected by the Treasury because normally pay rises faster than prices.

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recently given in aid of funding such pensions for teachers. On that basis two problems have to be solved—what the index link should be in normal times, and how today's crisis should be met.

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for senior officers and their wives. Can the consultations avoid dominated by those who espouse policies of envy?

If, however, it comes to ten contract-breaking legislation, some cult questions need consideration. Should such legislation be done or should it attempt to be fair difference between the theory incomes policy and the practice shows for greater percentage pay packets, and in addition "fringe benefits" that can one instance, no merchant seamen to naval pensioners? Would it be of benefit to the rest of the am told is possible. Mr Paine awards were to result in no office awarded a pre-tax increase great the sur, or a "heads we win, tails we lose" basis, select at will the least favourable to the pensioner ought it, upon at last adopting a "parity" link, simply to limit it round of payments to those who not yet reached the parity? C there not, after all, sound some ministerial assertion in July of principle that has commanded acceptance by the House and by: sive Governments should not be abandoned because of short term considerations?

Any derogation from cons rights derived from statutes re great care if injustice is to be at Moreover, justice must be paid to be done. This country's rell volunteers for its Armed Forces any further erosion of confidence their political masters could serious effects. In particular this a to the middle-rank officers o Army, many of the best of who already so much worried as tempted to leave their service for where neither the chances of medical promotion nor the core rewards are liable to be whittled by Parliament.

The author, who is a former Justice, of Appeal, served as an adjutant general in 1941 and © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1977.

Sir Eric S

# Text of Carter inaugural address

Washington, Jan 20.—The following is the text of President Carter's inaugural address today:

For myself and our nation, I want to thank my predecessor for all he has done to heal our land.

In this outward and physical ceremony we attest once again to the inner and spiritual strength of our nation. As my high school teacher, Miss Julia Coleman, used to say: "We must adjust to changing times and still hold to unchanging principles."

Before me is the Bible used in the inauguration of our first President in 1789, and I have just taken my own oath of office on the Bible my mother gave me a few years ago, opened to a timeless admonition from the ancient prophet Micah: "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good: And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God."

This inauguration ceremony marks a new beginning, a new dedication within our Government, a new spirit among us all. A President may sense and proclaim that new spirit, but only a people can provide it.

Two centuries ago our nation's birth was a milestone in the long quest for freedom, but the bold and brilliant dream which excited the founders of our nation still awaits its consummation. I have no new dream to set forth today, but rather urge a fresh faith in the old dream.

Ours was the first society openly to define itself in terms of both spirituality and of human dignity. It is that unique self-definition which has given us an exceptional appeal—but it is not enough. It is a special obligation, to take on those moral duties which, when assumed, seem invariably to be in our own best interests.

You have given me a great responsibility—to stay close to you, to be worthy of your confidence, to amplify what you are. Let us create together a new national spirit of unity and trust. Your strength can compensate for my weakness, and your wisdom can help to minimize my mistakes.

Let us learn together and laugh together and work together and pray together, confident that in the end we will triumph together in the light of our common faith.

The American dream endures. We must once again have faith in the future of our country and in the future of the world. I believe America can be better. We can be stronger than before.

Let our recent mistakes bring a resurgent commitment to the basic principles of our nation, for we

know that if we despair our own Government we have no future. We recall in special times when we have stood briefly, but magnificently, united. In those times no price was beyond our grasp.

But we cannot dwell on remembered glory. We cannot afford to drift. We reject the prospect of failure or mediocrity or an inferior quality of life for any person.

Our Government must at the same time be both competent and compassionate. We have already found a high degree of personal liberty, and we are now struggling to enhance equality of opportunity. Our commitment to human rights must be absolute, our laws fair, our natural beauty preserved. The powerful machine of modern science and human dignity must be enhanced.

We have learnt that "more" is not necessarily "better", that even our great nation has its recognized limits, and that we can never answer all questions nor solve all problems. We cannot afford to do everything, nor can we afford to lack wisdom as we meet the future. So together, in a spirit of individual sacrifice for the common good, we must simply do our best.

Our nation can be strong abroad only if it is strong at home, and we know that the best way to meet the future, in other lands as in our own, is to demonstrate here that our democratic system is worthy of emulation.

To be true to ourselves, we must be true to others. We will not behave in foreign places so as to violate our rules and standards here at home, for we know that the problems of the world, if it is essential to its strength.

The world itself is now dominated by a new spirit. Peoples more numerous and more diverse are aware are craving and now demanding their place in the sun—not just for the benefit of their own people, but for the benefit of all people.

The passion for freedom is on the rise. Tapping this new spirit, the powerful machine of modern science and human dignity must be enhanced. We must learn together and laugh together and work together and pray together, confident that in the end we will triumph together in the light of our common faith.

We are a strong nation and we will maintain strength so sufficient that it need not be proved by combat—a quick strength based not merely on the size of an arsenal, but on the nobility of ideas.

We will be ever vigilant and never vulnerable, and we will fight our wars against poverty, ignorance and injustice, for those are the enemies against which our

chapter in our nation's history and are beginning to work on another. We have, I believe, acquired a more mature perspective on the problems of the world. It is a perspective on the problems of the world. It is a perspective on the problems of the world. It is a perspective on the problems of the world.

The United States alone cannot guarantee the basic right of every man, woman and child to freedom from poverty and hunger and disease and political repression. We can and will co-operate with others in combating these enemies of mankind.

The United States alone cannot insure an equitable development of the world, response or the proper safeguarding of the world's environment. But we can and will join with others in this work. The United States can and will take the lead in such efforts.

In these endeavors we need your help, and we need your wisdom. We need your active participation in a joint effort to move the reality of the world closer to the ideals of human freedom and dignity.

As friends, you can depend on the United States to be in the forefront of the search for world peace. You can depend on the United States to remain steadfast in its commitment to human freedom and liberty. And you can depend on the United States to be sensitive to your own concerns and aspirations, to welcome your advice, to do its utmost to resolve international differences in a spirit of cooperation.

The problems of the world will not be easily resolved. The well-being of each and every one of us—indeed our mutual survival—depends on their resolution. As President of the United States, I can assure you that we intend to do our part. I ask you to join us in a common effort based on mutual trust and mutual respect.

As relatively recently as 1970 Mr Hesley fairly stated "it is clear from a job evaluation exercise that the forces have been seriously underpaid in recent years". Whilst serving they

used to be—and, I gather, still are—taught, in the light of the way their pay is fixed, to regard their pension rights as a "dark horse" to be in normal times, and how today's crisis should be met.

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...in unpredictable  
...antime having

## inzarote adds to s experience steeplechasing

heal Phillips  
Correspondent

rote won the Drawbridge  
at Lingfield Park  
in a manner that no  
one expected from a horse of his  
making at 7-4 on. But  
the race told us nothing  
of the great ability of  
the inexperience. The con-  
siderable suit he down  
ground and he outclassed  
his opponents, winning by 10  
the important thing was  
gained a little bit more  
of jumping fences and  
the which he had to  
to win the Gold Cup at  
at in March.

as the Gold Cup is con-  
sidered his trainer, F.  
not his owner, Lord  
de Walden, would be  
What Winter did say  
was that he was keen for  
to have a couple more  
before Cheltenham, but  
d when he could not say  
the event. Lord de Wal-  
den made it so difficult  
for his profession to  
plan and adhere to it.  
I am sure that Lanzarote  
entered for the Sun-  
steeplechase and the  
ophy, so that his con-  
will have the widest pos-  
sibility. My feeling is that  
well between now and the  
March Lanzarote will be  
to take his chance in the  
because, with the race  
open, this is surely the  
the Gold Cup one book-  
now offering both the  
at Fort Fox at 6-1. Then  
Brown Lad, 10-1. Ban-  
plier, Lanzarote and Royal  
feller Brown Lad not  
ollic has run this season.  
correspondent discussed  
and Fort Fox elsewhere.  
me clear last night was  
Lanzarote is now virtually  
run against Pendl and  
at Kempton Park.

Fulke Walwyn is  
he Fort Devan should  
their race quickly and  
o, that if he waits for  
next week the weather in  
I could have Lanzarote  
one noticeable mistake  
and that was confirmed  
John Francombe. Other  
umping was good for a  
ng only his second race  
fences. Once over  
once Lanzarote strolled  
ay from Irish Swift.

was the first of two  
the champion jockey,  
he day Francombe won  
the race. Other  
Camp, who had won  
12 months ago when  
ined by Frank Cundell,  
ford has been ridden by  
the Schweppes Gold  
ten he was riding for  
and this year he has  
been winning the cov-  
ed the first time. At  
th Tielolino, who ran  
at trial for the Newbury  
in the Turret Handi-  
c.

12st 6lb in what was  
out, Tielolino was  
ght lengths by The  
ung half-brother, who  
not disgraced. Indeed,



Housewives' choice perhaps, but not bookmakers': Charlotte Brew, one of two women jockeys in the Grand National for the first time, exercises Barony Fort, 200-1 for the big race.

## Bannow Rambler helps his Gold Cup hopes

From an Irish Racing  
Correspondent

Dublin, Jan 20

In one of the most exciting  
races of the winter two Chel-  
tenham Gold Cup hopefuls, Bannow  
Rambler and Fort Fox, fought out  
a hard race at Kempton Park today.  
Thyestes Handicap Steeplechase at  
Kempton Park. Bannow Rambler,  
the 3-1 favourite, defied the book-  
makers' opinion and gained the  
victory in the close finish.

It had been assumed that the  
heavy ground would play into the  
hands of the more lightly weighted  
divisions, but the contrary proved  
the case as the class horses  
dominated the prize. The first  
three places going to the horses  
who were at the top of the handi-  
cap.

Roman Bar, a Grand National  
entry, went to the front at the  
start of the second circuit and led  
until headed at the third last fence  
by Bannow Rambler. Turning into  
the home straight, a free-moving  
Bannow Rambler looked certain to  
justify favourites for up to this  
point his jumping had been fault-  
less. However, he got tired coming  
to the final jump and, making a  
bad blunder, lost several lengths.  
The pursuing Fort Fox (5-1) took  
advantage to get alongside and  
halfway up the run home went  
a neck ahead. Fort Fox, however,  
found the combination of 12 st and  
the concession of 7 lb to Bannow  
Rambler too much for him and  
the pair were locked together.

STATE OF GOING (official): Kempton Park, Jan 20, 1977. Handicap Steeplechase: Soft (inspection at 3.30).

## ton Park programme

DLESEX HURDLE (Div I: part I: novices: £651: 2m)	
1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
ESEX HURDLE (Div II: part I: £657)	
1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
ESEX HURDLE (Div II: part II: £646)	
1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
RY HURDLE (Handicap: £805: 21m)	
1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## 2.30 HANWORTH STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £890: 3m)

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## 3.30 MIDDLESEX HURDLE (Div II: part II: £657)

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## 4.0 ROYAL MAIL HURDLE (Novices handicap: £1,056: 3m)

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## 5.00 EASTERN HURDLE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,012: 2m)

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## 6.00 ROYAL MAIL HURDLE (Novices handicap: £1,056: 3m)

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## Kempton Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

12.30 Valiant Charger. 1.00 NARRIBALL. 1.30 KINO LAMMER. 2.00 Tumble Rock. 2.30 The Super. 3.00 NIDSUMMER. LAD is specially recommended. 3.30 Slips. 4.00 Modesty Forbids.

3.00 (1.00) DRAWBRIDGE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,046: 3m)

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## Table tennis

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## Cricket

1. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
2. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
3. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
4. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
5. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
6. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
7. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
8. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones
9. Valiant Charger (D), 11-10	R. A. Jones
10. James Thorne, D, Underwood, 11-5	R. A. Jones

## Law Report January 20 1977

# Judges seek not to govern but to uphold the law

Gouriet v Union of Post Office Workers and others  
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Goff

"The present case can be summed up in one sentence. The applicant is either trying to enforce the criminal law in the civil courts, which is a matter for the Attorney General, or he is trying to assert against two trade unions a claim in tort, and on neither ground can he do so."

Lord Justice Lawton: Suppose a union orders that no one shall cross a picket line and anyone who does shall be assaulted and injured. The union would be liable to go to the law to enforce its order, which is what is at stake in this case, and it is not seeking to govern the country, but to enforce the law.

Lord Justice Goff: But if there is an action for a declaration, it would not be difficult to grant an interim injunction to prevent the strike pending a decision as to what the rights are. That is what we did on Saturday.

Counsel referred the court to Lord Denning's judgment in *London Passenger Transport Board v. Moscovitz* (1942) AC 332, 344 where Viscount Maugham said that the court should not make any order for a declaration in which, as in this case, the plaintiff claimed no right for himself but sought to prevent others from doing what he himself had a right to do.

Lord Justice Goff: Your point is startlingly new and clear; but it is equally clear to me that a union cannot be liable to a criminal action such as assault, and a grave suspicion exists that the court is to step into a breach of the law.

Lord Justice Goff: The Master of the Rolls: The point is very important. You say it applies even in respect of a tort which is a criminal offence? Counsel: I am indeed saying that.

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entitled to here on Saturday. I came before Mr Justice Chapman just before 10 am and was, as usual, invited to wait until the House of Commons debate had concluded. I agreed to an adjournment until 10.30 am the next morning. The issue arose and was debated in the House of Commons. At no time in the course of that debate did anyone say what the law was. It was said then, as it was said by Mr Jackson, that it had never been tested by the courts.

In the course of the afternoon, Mr Justice Chapman said that the House of Commons was not the place for the House of Commons to decide the law. He said that the House of Commons was not the place for the House of Commons to decide the law.

The Master of the Rolls: When was that? Counsel: On November 4. On the Friday morning Mr Justice Chapman said that I no longer required relief. I persisted in my application. It was then that the House of Commons was adjourned to come before Mr Justice Goff.

Before we came before Mr Justice Goff, the Union of Post Office Workers gave an undertaking by their executive council that it would agree not to interfere with the plaintiff's mail. The Post Office Corporation resisted any form of order against it and we agreed to adjourn the matter generally.

The significance of that case was that the union had the advantage of representation in the House of Commons. It was not the case of the advice given by the court. It was not told that the House of Commons was not the place for the House of Commons to decide the law.

The Master of the Rolls: That is right. You can say that the matter was debated in the House of Commons. Mr Newman: In so far as the Attorney General has said that there are certain matters which would normally fall into account, these were facts which he would take into account.

Lord Justice Goff: So the Attorney General would know of the financial damage in delaying mail. The Master of the Rolls: The consequence of breaking the law. Counsel: The Attorney General could use his office to show the consequences of breaking the law. The Master of the Rolls: The consequence of breaking the law.

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## Valid conditions are separable from invalid terms

Mr Rosedale had contended that the conditions as to separation and destruction were invalid, whereas the other conditions could not be said to fail as being against public policy. Two results could then follow, depending on (1) whether it was right to sever the valid from the invalid conditions, a point not previously definitely decided in a case such as the present one; and (2) if they could not be severed, on the basis of previous authorities they ought to be void in their entirety.

His Lordship said that in construing the will as a whole, and the light of the previous authorities, the clause did not make an absolute gift but a gift subject to five conditions precedent. He could not accept the argument that the conditions were to be treated as one composite condition with five separate limbs, all directed against the same end and involving the breach of

the marriage. The conditions as to separation and destruction (which could encourage irresponsibility with money) were invalid. The clause was thus subject to three remaining valid conditions.

The second question to be determined was whether Mrs Smith should be entitled to receive, in addition to some capital profit arising on any change of investments, after meeting capital gains tax. Capital profits were properly treated as income but the question was whether the share was to be treated as income or as capital.

Solicitors: Trower, Sill & Keeling, Stimpson, Miller, Shaen, Roscoe & Bracewell; Treasury Solicitor.











Bernard Levin

## Now they've found their mittens we should start to cry

I'll bet you'll never guess what's taking over the world now. The crabs, that's what. Or so, at any rate, I deduce from a report not long ago by the Science Correspondent of the *Daily Another Newspaper*. It seems that a certain species of Chinese crab (devilish cunning, these Chinese crabs, especially, I suppose, when devilled) have arrived in English waters wearing mittens. (Look, I know you weren't born yesterday, but I tell you the little bleeders wear mittens. Fur mittens. It said so in the paper. They're actually called "fur mittens" because of it. You'll allow that's logical, at any rate?)

I have heard of Russians with snow on their boots, but crabs with fur on their claws are another kind of fright altogether. To start with, the thought of a perfectly ordinary crab scuttling towards me, with nothing on its claws but a wisp of seaweed, is enough to give me a massive dose of the heebie-jeebies; if I met one which was apparently trying to convince passers-by that it was a cat (and a pretty convincing cat it would make, too, fur mittens or no fur mittens), I would refuse to be held responsible for my actions, particularly since these might include jumping clean through the nearest window without first troubling to open it.

### Something immeasurably ancient

There is something almost prehistoric about a crab. The armour, the irregular method of progress, the difficulty it presents to those (I am not among them) who wish to know where its head, mouth, eyes and brain are located, even if only to be able to decide which way it is going; these characteristics suggest something immeasurably ancient, here long before man appeared and destined to remain long after he has gone. H. G. Wells's *The Time Machine*, I recall, has a scene in which the traveller goes so far into the future that the earth has stopped revolving and the sun has gone out; but he beach on which he lands are the crabs, grown huge but still recognizable.

On the other hand, Wells, though a dab hand at the horror (the description of the fight between the giant wasp and the man with the sword, in *The Food of the Gods*, in which the creature stings him just as he slashes it with the weapon, ends with the hauntingly awful words "Of the two, the man died first") did not equip his end-of-the-world crustaceans with fur mittens, possibly because he thought that would be rather over-egging the pudding, or at any rate the crab soufflé. But now the things—Things, really—have turned up in the cooling system of the West Thurrock power station, which suggests that they are not just horrors from the nightmares of outer space but horrors from the nightmares of outer space which have been carefully trained by the Chinese to discover the secrets of British power stations.

No doubt somebody will now profess not to understand what I am making such a fuss about. If the crabs, the water, the cold (and what evidence have I that crabs are less affected

by the cold than I am?) what more natural than that they should don fur mittens—and for that matter, if they feel like it, muffs, woolly jumpers, knitted scarves, balaclava helmets and sheepskin-lined overcoats?

I suppose I would be accused of even greater indifference to the interests of the crabs if I were to reply that any crab which would like me to get it warm has only to step smartly forward in the direction of my saucerpan, whereupon I will do the rest. But assuming that the crabs want to be warmed up for their own purposes rather than mine, there is still something so extraordinarily incompatible about the thought of fur in connexion with such a creature that the mind recoils in alarm. Apart from anything else, I have always understood that, with the exception of whales (which are mammals) all sea-creatures are cold-blooded, so that if the crabs are giving us their excuse for wearing fur mittens the temperature of the water, they are almost certainly concealing something, and something pretty nasty, too. Come to think of it, I know of no aquatic beast which has fur, unless you count a seal. (I have a very handsome black seal-skin hat, which I wear only in the bitterest winter weather, and which I acquired long before the ecology-merchants had devised their own contribution to the noble art of making life unpleasant for other people. I now tend to run after passers-by whom I see eyeing it with disavour, crying "The animal died of old age. I tell you, with all its children and grandchildren round its bed.")

### They have ominous pincers

Crabs are, I insist, sinister. They have too many legs, they have ominous pincers, their shape is like nothing else on earth. For uncountable billions of years they have not changed that shape, and now, it seems, they have decided to grow fur on their claws and come to England (having, it is alleged, discovered away as larvae in Chinese waters), as if that information was supposed to provide reassurance.

This seems an appropriate moment—if it does nothing else, it will help to while away the time until the scaly tap on the door is heard—for me to tell my Uncle Salome's story about the boy-crab who fell in love with girl-oyster, and vice versa. The oyster's father, however, forbade the marriage, declaring that he would not allow into his family a creature which walked sideways. The oyster began to pine for her love, thus cruelly rejected, until one night the door of the family home was flung open, and in strode the crab, walking perfectly straight forward, then turning and walking, equally directly, in the other direction. While the father oyster smiled broadly and bade his future son-in-law welcome, the daughter rushed forward and threw her arms around the crab's neck. "Don't say a word," he hissed in her ear; "I'm drunk."

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## Mr. Algy, you surprised me.

I had made up my mind to buy a gold watch. Your selection, as I had expected, was exquisite.

Then you showed me the Royal Oak. The stainless steel watch made by Audemars Piguet.

Intractable metal had been patiently coaxed into an extraordinarily thin yet strong case. Eight tiny, hexagonal nuts locked the distinctive bezel to the deep blue face.

I slipped it onto my wrist. Its lightness surprised me. I had never imagined steel could feel so smooth.

When steel can be so beautiful, gold itself cannot be more precious.

Mr. Algy, I think I have changed my mind.



In Bruton Street  
Algeron Asprey

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Gibson Algyasprey Ltd. Telex: 31142.

## Reconciling devolved power with Westminster representation

# Rough justice may be needed to fix the right number of Scottish and Welsh MPs

Of the many problems presented by devolution the one that is most disconcerting to supporters of the scheme is what to do about Scottish and Welsh representation at Westminster. Is it right that Scottish and Welsh MPs should still be able to speak and vote on schools and housing in England, for example, where policy in those fields for Scotland and to some extent for Wales will be determined by the assemblies?

The question is asked more and more insistently by opponents of devolution in order to show its inherent contradictions. But it is disconcerting for those of us who none the less remain broadly in favour, because it might as well be admitted that there is no absolutely correct answer to the question. Whatever is done there are bound to be anomalies.

There are three choices. The first is to leave the number and powers of Scottish and Welsh MPs unchanged. That is what the Government still propose to do. It is in their present interest because Labour has a majority of seats in both countries. It also has the advantage, not to be despised by hard pressed ministers, of dispensing with the obligation to think of any alternative.

The second choice, which is now favoured by the SNP, would be to deny Scottish MPs the right to vote on purely English and Welsh legislation (so long as the Welsh assembly is not given legislative powers the right of their MPs to vote at Westminster could hardly be limited) while, though not necessarily,

leaving their number unchanged.

This is the old "in and out" principle that keeps popping up in devolution schemes down the years. It was initially in Gladstone's second Irish Home Rule Bill in 1893 but had to be discarded because of widespread criticism of both its practicality and its logic.

The proposal then was to divide all parliamentary business into Imperial, British and Irish matters, giving Irish MPs the right to take part only on Imperial and Irish questions. This would have presented no particular problems so far as legislation was concerned. Indeed, it is never the practice for the Speaker to rule whether a Bill is a purely Scottish piece of legislation in order to determine whether it should be sent to the Scottish Parliament. The Government's proposal is a matter which goes beyond legislation. So many apparently simple questions have wider implications.

The logic of such a scheme would be even more in doubt. If it were applied now, it would mean that where a government's majority in the House of Commons depended on the support of Scottish MPs, the only circumstance in which the right of Scottish MPs to vote on English business at Westminster would be of more than academic importance—ministers would not be able to neglect contentious English legislation through Parliament.

Social legislation could be enacted for Scotland because it

would have an assembly through which its executive could expect to pass its Bills, but similar legislation for England would then be in jeopardy because the United Kingdom Government could not call on the support of Scottish MPs at Westminster. That would seem a bizarre way for the English to ensure that the Scots did not have the best of both worlds.

The third course would be to reduce the number of Scottish and Welsh members at Westminster. There is no point in pretending that this would be an adequate answer in logic to the objection that it would be unfair for Scottish MPs to vote on English legislation in fields where decisions for Scotland are taken in the assembly. The anomaly would remain no matter how few Scottish MPs there were.

But it is equally an illusion to suggest that numbers have nothing to do with the question. The anomaly is already hallowed by precedent in the case of Northern Ireland. There were Northern Irish MPs at Westminster throughout the years when Northern Ireland had its own assembly at Stormont.

They were not a cause of affront during this time because there have been so many other factors. The Government's proposal of 12 Northern Irish MPs at Westminster under the terms of which Stormont was set up, reduced their number to 13—which subsequently became 12 on the abolition of the university seats—whereas the number of Northern Irish MPs at Westminster was 17 in comparison of population. Even so, there have been occasions when the balance of representation from Northern

Ireland has significantly affected the strength of a British Government, though it has never actually determined which party would form the government.

The Ardle Government's margin of eight seats over Conservatives and Liberals combined in the 1950 parliament would have been more comfortable without the net eight Conservative members from Northern Ireland. Less importantly, the Conservative majority in the 1951-55 parliament would have been rather less assured without the Northern Irish MPs. But it was in 1964 that they were of most consequence.

The Wilson Government then had an overall majority of only four in a parliament where all 12 Northern Irish members were Conservative. Without them there might not have been a general election as early as 1966 and the subsequent course of British politics might have been different.

All of these instances arose, however, after the pattern of Northern Irish representation had been established for some time. So it was seen by then not as a potential iniquity but as one of those quirks in the British constitution that as a people we tend to regard with affection and even pride if we have been established for some time.

The best hope is that Scottish and possibly Welsh representation at Westminster will come to be seen in the same light. The prospects will be all the more valid if the balance of power in the early years at least. That is the nub of the matter. It would be sheer hypocrisy for English

MPs to pretend that they will feel deprived at no longer being able to deal with Scottish business, which they have always considered a monumental bore.

What they fear is the Scots being able to determine who holds office at Westminster as well as in the assembly, and there would be less chance of that if there were fewer Scottish MPs.

At the moment both Scotland and Wales are over-represented at Westminster in terms of population. That stems from the Representation of the People Act of 1918 which implemented the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference of the year before. It was confirmed by the 1944 Speaker's Conference and in subsequent legislation.

Two reasons were given unofficially on behalf of this second Speaker's Conference: national sentiment and the consideration that Scotland and Wales had lost population because of the depression, which could partly be attributed to failures of government policy. To reduce Scottish and Welsh representation as a consequence, it was argued, would be to punish them politically as well as economically for the failings of government. This argument must have seemed strange at the time and would be absurd as a basis for decision today.

National sentiment is being acknowledged by the creation of assemblies. But there is a third argument that is still valid: the need to take into account not only population but distances in sparsely populated constituencies, especially towards the extremities of

Britain. But that could be continued over-representation when assemblies are up. The Kilbrandon Commission thought it should and the time has surely come to reconsider the situation at Westminster.

It would be impossible to deal with Northern Scotland and Wales under the umbrella of the Government are planning announcing a mid-term stage proceeds representation of Northern Ireland is to be reexamined: best course would be that a Speaker's Conference will be convened to this and other matters that the Government recommend the equal representation according to population of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland would mean cutting the number of seats for Scotland to 57 and for Wales to 31.

That would be no rough justice. But it is the best practicable solution. It would mean cutting the number of seats for Scotland to 57 and for Wales to 31. That would be no rough justice. But it is the best practicable solution. It would mean cutting the number of seats for Scotland to 57 and for Wales to 31.

Geoffrey

## Urban bias in the Third World means that real needs are ignored

# Why overseas aid does not make the poor richer

By 1978-79 Britain's development aid is to be slashed by 20 per cent. Other private sources of funds seem discredited by endless revelations, from ITT in Chile to Haw Par in Singapore. As for export earnings, the poorest countries find that their prices—for Indian tea or Bangladeshi jute—lag far behind oil and oil-based manufactures, which are essential imports for development. Is the "New International Economic Order" mere empty talk?

Despite the gloom, longer-term post-colonial development has by conventional standards been amazingly successful. After centuries of backward stagnation, the Third World has since 1950 roughly doubled real income-per-person. Behind the figures there is genuine development, measurable not just in new factories and dams but in falling mortality and rising literacy. Nor has aid been irrelevant. Some 10 per cent of the big differences among poor countries in growth is statistically linked to differences in their aid receipts (roughly matching the 10-12 per cent of their investment paid for by net aid).

The gloom prevails because growth and development have done hardly anything for the poorest half of the Third World's swelling population. In Brazil in the 1960s their real average income grew by under 1 per cent; that of the richer half, by over 30 per cent. In almost all the large poor countries, notably India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines, recent research has revealed stagnation or decline in the living standards of the poorest 20 to 40 per cent, especially in the rural areas.

Agriculture must hold the key. The great mass of the

very poor are small farmers or landless labourers (and even the latter group is poor and urban only for lack of agricultural prospects). They must spend three-quarters of their income (and over half of any extra income) to feed themselves. So, if food output and calorie intake per person stagnate—and in most poor countries it is not higher now than in 1934—the welfare of the rural poor cannot improve much. Indeed, whereas the non-agriculturalist during the early industrialization of Europe, about 150 years ago, averaged only one and a half to two times the income of his farming compatriot, the ratio in the Third World today is typically as high as four to one.

In most poor countries today, domestic investment patterns make matters worse. Only one-fifth of capital investment, and an even lower proportion of "human capital" in the form of skilled persons, supports the 70 per cent of workers who practise agriculture—a major reason why they produce only 40 per cent of output. Such a capital famine seems unfair to agriculturalists, who start much poorer. It has proved inefficient too. Typically, if the last £10m invested in agriculture had been put into agriculture instead, it would have yielded at least twice as much. Efficiency has also suffered as shortages of food or raw materials, from the neglected farm sector, have compelled cutbacks in the very strategy of industrialization which the neglect of agriculture was supposed to have speeded up.

Why do Third World politicians use public resources, and adjust incentives to the use of private resources, in this anti-rural way? Because they face a

special problem: urban bias. In poor countries urban pressure groups—business, bureaucracy—have acquired power, articulateness, ideology and prestige far beyond their size or economic importance. Many Third World politicians know this: they want to assist small-scale cereal farmers, whom they know to be labour-intensive and hardworking, and who are the backbone of urban bias ensures that they cannot do so with domestic resources. That is where aid can help. Yet, so far, barely 12 per cent has gone to agriculture.

In the late 1960s Sweden, Holland and Canada led a shift in aid priorities towards activities creating for the rural poor, land and capital assets to permit self-reliant development. Powerful support came in 1973 when Robert McNamara committed the World Bank to similar policies. The Bank's spending plans have increasingly reflected his promises. So recently, have the official papers on aid policy of the United States and British governments. This year the International Fund for Agricultural Development, financed by \$500m each from OPEC and Western donors, begins lending on each country's own agreement—on food production by, and for, the poorest people, especially "in the poorest food deficit countries".

Yet these good intentions, backed by sound development theory and experience regarding the inadequacy of urban-biased development, could end in a managerial disaster. If poor countries are to overcome urban bias, how much more must it affect the centres of donor power: Washington, Paris, Geneva, Rome! There, the lobbies, the ideologies, above all the experience of aid

management, are at best those of the fertilizer factory and worst those of the jet-setting three-week-expertise of international consultancy. Given the (usually high) levels of technical competence, specialists even from such a background can plausibly advocate, sensibly select, and ably monitor "hardware" projects directed at urban growth. But it is hopeless to expect the three-week appraisal from the air-conditioned hotel to find, or to monitor, dispersed activities designed to raise the income, self-sufficiency and status of the rural poor.

The first big problem is how to identify, select and evaluate such activities. Their apparent scarcity has been one cause of the shortage of aid (and domestic investment) for agriculture. Given urban bias, governments—and consultants—will prepare and polish projects in heavy industry, transport and power often leaving potentially much better rural projects too under-prepared to attract funds. Aid donors cannot, of course, intervene while a government selects and evaluates projects for them; but they can help it by providing their own expertise and institutions for that purpose. The alternative is a vast expansion of hastily-identified rural projects, in the short run matching the donor agency's wish to meet cash targets for country programmes against poverty, but in the long run run the risk of being discarded as "attempts to cure poverty by throwing money at it".

Project monitoring is even more important. Without it the money for a well-selected project will reach neither its poor and weak, and with it even a badly-selected project

can often be "brought round". Monitoring a piece of single-crop urban hardware—steel mill or power station—means ensuring the money is spent and the goods delivered in the right way and the right order, and with the right effect on the project's expected output. Monitoring of activities to help the rural poor towards self-reliant development requires all this, and more: steady observation, in a few typical affected and (for comparison) unaffected rural communities, of the amount of land distributed before, as well as during and after, the project builds up—of calories, income, maybe even power.

Such work requires residence, not in the best hotel for a few days, but in rural communities for several months. Few Third World governments will welcome such activities by unsupervised outside donors; but many want the resources to enable an independent national agency to do the job, for their own projects as well as aided ones. Competent agencies exist in several developing countries, some of India's Agro-economic Research Centres are outstanding—but often lack the computing, teaching, or other resources to monitor projects. Appropriate international support can strengthen and help these agencies, and build them up in countries where they are not yet present.

Donors—multilateral like the World Bank or bilateral like the Ministry of Overseas Development—are not monoliths. Crudely, they contain two groups. Most of the economists, younger or recently-joined staff, and country specialists support the "new wave" of activities aimed against rural poverty, but

sometimes lack under the rationing of management requirements, and follow through, that will get past the structure to the poor, the accountants, or longer-standing staff, select specialists prefer style, more readily accept what the rural project sometimes fail to physical structures, they produce growth, less they alleviate poverty to justify finance on aid.

Today the new wave spends the money on hardware and for the attack on rural to discredit itself. The state of aid for agriculture is that this will happen: nutrition projects produce costly dairy for the rich, tractorize deep-sea trawling, merely replace employment, and "green" for tenancy w their very success caution, all are being poverty programmes.

The rural spenders' central idea is: but they work with recipient governments to develop generous institutions and for project selection and general management. Their sincere bring aid to the rural founder, on the real urban bias, and he will discredit all but rowest of commercial for evaluating and su development projects aid.

Michael I  
+ Michael Lipton's *Up People Stay Poor: Writ in World Development published yesterday by Smith.*  
© Times Newspapers Ltd

## The Times Diary

### How to tug a jury's heart strings

perison of compensation rates for various sorts of injury arising from medical negligence. It emerged that for simple loss of an eye, which would net you \$5,000 in Britain, you would be awarded at least \$50,000 in the rural counties of poorer states in America, but probably \$180,000 in Miami, \$200,000 in California, and \$250,000 in New York. About a third of American awards would go to the lawyer.

For the death of a "perfectly ordinary housewife of 42", an English doctor used to dealing with compensation cases suggested at least \$50,000, an award up to £10,000. A sharp attorney from Florida leapt in; no competent advocate, he said, would let a jury leave a courtroom with the idea that the deceased was "perfectly ordinary".

"It is when you can bring in and develop the mental pain and suffering at least \$50,000 that you can really build up substantial awards. Even if the housewife and her husband were not getting along, or were heading for divorce and all the children were running away, could pull down a minimum of \$100,000. If things were better it would go up . . . and up."

Then they fell to talking about punitive damages, rectifying with rebuke cases in which juries had returned verdicts of, for example, \$5.92 compensatory damages for a stolen vehicle part, topped off with eight million dollars punitive damages for the accident which lack of the part caused. Glaser

had one in which he had filed for \$750,000 dollars. "But the jury was so incensed when we finished they gave us \$1,100,000."

The British public, Glaser concluded, did not know what they were missing. "You miss out completely because you do not have a contingency fees system, so only the very poor, through legal aid, or the very rich, with their own money, can sue. And their jury might again because you do not usually get choice of jury trial. Judges have everything scheduled out. A jury can be called in at particular circumstances, and, of course, the trial advocacy. Whatever the merits of the British system, American law certainly works out well for American lawyers."

### Killjoys

The Greater London Council and Westminster City Council are at loggerheads over the celebration of the Silver Jubilee in Leicester Square. The Labour-controlled GLC has already started paving two sides of the square, planting trees, putting in seats and putting up decorative lights.

But the killjoy Conservatives of Westminster have scotched the plan, and bring in a covered bandstand, on the grounds that it would have been an illegal obstruction of the highway, and they object equally strenuously to other GLC plans. The GLC want to have refreshments served in the Square gardens,

to have the gardens open after dusk and to be flooded till midnight—all splendidly jolly ideas.

But Westminster say the GLC plan would turn Leicester Square into a "vandalized tourist camp", encouraging various sorts of anti-social behaviour already witnessed in Piccadilly Circus, close by. They also say that the idea of serving refreshments in the gardens would have irreparable effects on the grass which, they say, is of a particularly delicate strain.

Finally they say the idea of floodlighting the Square is inappropriate when they are trying to cut spending. "The GLC can bring all sorts of pressure to bear," the Westminster spokesman said, "but we have the whip hand."

### All clean

The last time I wrote about bathtubs and lavatories, a few of you wrote to the editor to complain about my unfavourable treatment of the topic. Treacherously, he replied to the effect that I agreed with the complaints, so I had better be extra careful this time.

The occasion for the earlier piece was a chat I had with Alexander Kira, an American who wants to revolutionize our lavatory basins. None of his innovations, though, are on display at the new Bathroom and Shower Centre in Great Portland Street, London, which opened formally yesterday.

The ground floor section, for domestic purchasers, contains 11 bathroom settings, which cost from £300 to over £1,500. But the lavatories, bidets and basins are of the unconventional design which Kira finds so impractical, though some of the baths are of unusual shape, and there is a thermostatic shower of which we had undoubtedly approve.



labelled in Arabic as English.

It looked exactly the other stuff, and ex confided that it was ex what he called a "squat closet", which I describe to you for fear of further editor favour.

### Perfidious

Roy Jenkins, into his hat as President of the E Commission, is growing, by allegations of his re to speak French. These from an incident, thus his arrival in Brussels repercussions of which commenced on this page day.

Asked by a Belgian te reafter to re-read his statement to the pr French, Jenkins declines voking sour comment Francophones. But since the new President has g interview to French in French. Close sides, putting it about that he French at dinner parties.

His command of the according to one sou "painful" but gran curate. To restate ning Francophones have Jenkins "Le roi Jean Q

In spite of the abolition cottages, the Ministry o culture cannot get on habit of treating farm as livestock. A guest answer booklet about t Renu (Agriculture) A clares that although the lation does not apply to u employed by Govt departments, "there is no arrangement to that they are treated fairs with their fellow in the private sector."





## ESIDENT CARTER

Mr Carter is more of an quantity than anyone in the history of the United States in recent times. In government, as in the private life of the four years, it is too much to provide much of a campaign was based, in its earlier stages, on an unusual extent upon lies. And his inaugural address was designed to set a tone that was to provide specific lies on policy.

Nevertheless, there are three of his speech that are of interest in assessing the id of president Mr Carter to make. The first is his approach to the functioning of government. It is true that presidents are always to proclaim their attachment to the virtues of the office, but there is a force in what Mr Carter says on this topic.

As an essential part of the office, he would not be today if he had not been campaigning for a nomination to a second term.

There is another risk with a particularly moralistic foreign policy: that its practitioners may become so accustomed to wearing a cloak of righteousness that they forget to put it aside when they are furthering their own national interest. The name of John Foster Dulles is scored on British memories. But Mr Carter has laid special stress on his wish for partnership with the other nations of the world. He does not start with the illusion that the United States alone can solve the problems of mankind.

All these dangers are reduced, indeed, by the third feature of Mr Carter's Address: its caution. He went out of his way to emphasize the limitations of what

sense. Mr Carter proclaimed, "dictates a clearcut preference for those societies which share with us an abiding respect for individual human rights." At one level that might be regarded as little more than a statement of the obvious. It is welcome in so far as it betokens a greater awareness that the internal nature of different regimes is a factor in international affairs, and that foreign policy is influenced by the attitudes of peoples as well as by the interests of governments. But if such an approach is taken too far it comes into conflict with the canons of classic diplomacy which are concerned with the fact of power and its containment by the international community. The balance of power and spheres of influence are not inventions of the devil. The danger with Dr Kissinger was always that he would pay too much regard to the realities of power: the danger with Mr Carter is that he may pay too little.

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government can achieve and provide. "We have learned that 'better' is not necessarily 'more', that even our great nation has its recognized limits, and that we can neither answer all questions nor solve all problems." That is in keeping with the mood of the United States over the past few years when there has been a strong reaction against the gospel of big government. There is no longer the belief that greater government involvement, and the spending of more public money, are the natural answers to most problems—and therefore no longer the political imperative on officeholders to promise to solve all problems.

Mr Carter's sense of caution has been confirmed by his appointments. During his campaign he promised to bring new faces to Washington: in practice he has shown his respect for experience. This has brought on him the wrath of liberal critics at home, but these are not complaints that should be echoed on this side of the Atlantic. We have no reason to press an adventurous policy on Mr Carter. Indeed, in one of the most important of all fields the danger is that he may be too adventurous—in his conduct of the economy the fear must be that his eagerness to get the American economy moving again may cause him to reflate too much with consequent risks of national and international inflation. Even here, though, Mr Carter has been rather more cautious than many people had expected. One of the reasons he is the unknown President is that so frequently his policies are carefully qualified, which means that more will depend than with most holders of his office upon how he responds to its pressures.

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## The government of Ulster

From Sir Patrick Macrory  
Sir, I do hope that someone in authority is paying attention to the letters of Mr Paul Maguire and Mr David Morrison (January 17) and in particular to the point made by Mr Morrison that the major local government services of Northern Ireland, such as health and education, are now subject to no local democratic control at all.

This is a situation ludicrously different from that recommended in 1970 by the Review Body on Local Government in Northern Ireland. There were then three tiers of local government in the province: the Stormont Parliament and Government, functioning in several respects as a local authority; six county and two county borough councils; and 65 urban, rural and borough councils. I and my colleagues (in a unanimous report) thought that this was an over-elaborate structure for a province smaller in extent than Yorkshire, with a population of about 1.1 million and a rateable value at that time lower than that of the City of Leeds.

We recommended the elimination of the middle tier, the county and county borough councils, and the transfer of their responsibilities for services such as health and education to Stormont. The recommendations were in general welcomed by both sides and accepted by the Stormont Administration. The councils were dismantled and their assets and functions transferred to Stormont—which a year or so later itself disappeared. It is to me unthinkable that we would have recommended the abolition of the county councils if we could have guessed that this was going to happen.

The Review Body had been insistent that these great local government services must be democratically controlled, at least in the sense that a citizen with a query or grievance about them should be able to get his question answered by a representative of his problem and in the last resort compel an elected representative (as it might be, the Minister of Health) to stand up in an elected assembly (Stormont) and answer for his services. Today the citizen has no such redress. It is unlikely in the extreme that he will ever be able to get his query raised in far-off Westminster by one of the twelve Ulster MPs with their huge constituencies. I hear from my friends in Ulster repeated complaints about the difficulty of extracting an answer from the anonymous ranks of the bureaucrats.

At the same time the citizens of Ulster are from time to time exhorted from across the water to vote for the restoration of Stormont, which is no political forum in which to do so except the district councils, which are strictly limited and local powers. The political vacuum is almost total.

Why is nothing being done? At the time of the restoration of Stormont, the Stormont Parliament and Government, which I think, establish an elected Combined Councils Council for the whole of the province, a council which, initially at least, would have been a government of the province, was not set up. The Stormont buildings, complete with library, Hansard and other services, stand ready to house such a body. It may be that the way back to peace, sanity and cooperation is to be found in the field of local government, and that the restoration of Stormont is a necessary condition of the level of the district councils the signs of cooperation are encouraging.

Yours sincerely,  
PATRICK MACRORY,  
Chairman of the Review Body on Local Government in Northern Ireland, 1970.  
The Athenaeum,  
Pall Mall, SW1,  
January 18.

## Plight of the Banabans

From Sir Bernard Braine, MP for South East Essex (Conservative)  
Sir, Both Sir John Peel (letters, January 14) and Mr Bernard Thorogood (letters, January 12) take issue with one aspect of my report on the plight of the Banabans. The justice to be done to the Banabans. Both contend that the Banabans are Gilbertese and that the latter have, for this reason, the right to enjoy the assets of the former.

Sir, I am not aware of any evidence of pre-colonial links between Gilbertese and Banabans, namely "an important chief marriage" between Beru in the Gilberts and the Banabans.

I would like to question a former Resident Commissioner of the Gilberts, but a paper I have before me by a predecessor of his, Mr R. E. Maude, the acknowledged authority on the area, dates this link at AD 1650, when some fugitives from the Gilbert Islands, the Gilberts arrived on Ocean Island and intermarried freely with the Banabans. There was scarcely any other contact because Ocean Island was virtually inaccessible to the Gilberts until the arrival of European sailing ships. In short, there is no evidence that Ocean Island was regarded as part of the Gilberts until it was made so by British officials after the discovery there of rich phosphate deposits.

The right to tax Banaban phosphates to finance the administration of the Gilbert Islands, a charge which would otherwise have fallen to the British Treasury, derives from the exercise of British sovereignty over the area, not from any kinship links between the indigenous inhabitants.

No Member of Parliament, as far as I am aware, has any wish to ignore the interests of the Gilbertese people. But it is Ocean Island, not any one of the 15 Gilbert atolls, which has been totally ravaged by British, Australian and New Zealand nuclear tests. It is the Banabans, not the Gilbertese, who have been mercilessly bullied and cheated by successive British administrations. The Government must not be allowed to continue to thwart the Banabans' profound emotional and cultural attachment to their homeland until the proceeds from the last mine of phosphate have been used to absolve Britain from her financial obligations towards her Gilbert Islands Colony.

Yours sincerely,  
BERNARD BRAINE,  
House of Commons.

## Educating our masters

From Sir Eric Roll

Sir, Your leading article (January 18) on "Educating our Masters" is welcome since it raises a very important point. It is also, in my view, right in its criticism of the Fulton Report and its sequelae. But I think there is a danger that in your emphasis on the training of civil servants (however meritorious the idea of a Staff College in itself may be) you may be helping to perpetuate the error which was the fundamental one in Fulton.

The real problem is not the training of civil servants but the relationship between the administrator and the politician which, for reasons which you yourself give, has for some time now been in a state of flux. The old theory that "officials decide policy" is to put it at its lowest, no longer adequate as a basis for their relationship.

It is in clarifying this problem, together with a host of other extremely difficult ones, such as the relationship between the executive and Parliament, that the true task lies. I fear that merely training civil servants more in the supposedly important but often questioned arts of business management, or whatever else may be advocated, will hardly go anywhere to contribute to its solution.

Incidentally, it is interesting that you should end on a high note concerning Ecole Nationale d'Administration when, as far as I am aware, that great French institution is coming under increasing questioning in its own country.

Yours truly,  
ERIC ROLL,  
D2 Albany,  
Piccadilly, W1,  
January 19.

## Newspaper troubles

From Mr Kenneth G. Braidwood  
Sir, The casualty of the letters from Messrs K. Smith and J. Mosely (January 15 and 19) is galling. Mr David Astor's analysis of the troubles in Fleet Street which are the responsibility of management, journalists and operatives is well known throughout the industry. These facts have been a scandal since the 50s.

As a director of the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) in November, 1966, under the direction of Mr Geoffrey Browne, the then managing director of the EIU, I was responsible for presenting a report on the national newspaper industry which was commissioned by the Joint Board for the National Newspapers Industry (JBNPI), an organisation which was composed of representatives of the Newspaper Publishers Association (NPA), the proprietors and the unions including craft and industrial representatives.

This report, which had taken many months to prepare, was intended to be entirely confidential to the industry. However, because sections of the report gained unauthorized publicity, it was decided by the Joint Board that the report should be published in its entirety for general circulation. This was done and it was freely available to all who wanted a copy from the offices of the NPA.

This report, which remains available in many reference libraries, fully vindicates the statements of Mr Astor. At the time of its publication it was agreed by the representatives of management and unions that it was a fair and independent and reliable study of the national newspaper business although each representative of the JBNPI did not necessarily agree with every sentence in the report.

The present problems which the industry faces are not the outcome of difficulties which developed in recent months, or the past two or three years, they have been developing since the 50s. That they are now in the attention they deserve now is a measure of the extremely precarious financial position of the majority of national newspapers which has in large part arisen from the mismanagement and trade union practices of the past 20 years.

Yours sincerely,  
KENNETH G. BRAIDWOOD,  
15 Pembroke Court,  
Edwards Square,  
Kensington, W8,  
January 19.

## The sale of Mentmore

From the Editor of The Connoisseur  
Sir, I am writing to you about Mentmore because the wrong decision has been taken about the future of this house and its collections, which are not widely known and which are of paramount importance. The case of Mentmore demonstrates in extreme form the problems faced by the owner of such a heritage, the government department responsible for negotiating its future and the saleroom, in this case Sotheby's, brought in to advise.

Mentmore was built for Baron Meyer Amschel de Rothschild to the designs of Sir Joseph Paxton and G. H. Stokes between 1850 and 1855. It is a grand, cumbersome and remarkable building in the English Renaissance style. Meyer Amschel's taste was in advance of his time and given the resources at his disposal, it is not surprising that he was able to bring together one of the most remarkable collections in Britain.

Even if one were to leave aside the paintings by Rembrandt, Murillo and Turner, the Sevres porcelain, tapestries, bronzes, Limoges enamels and priceless objects from the Doge Palace in Venice, the collection of French furniture would rank as one of the finest in the world. The fifth Earl of Rosebery

## Improving our surroundings

From Professor Sir Colin Buchanan

Sir, Whenever I return to this country from my travels I experience a profound feeling of thankfulness that I live where I do, and there is much more to this than the mere fact of returning home. Even so, this feeling is tempered by the realization that there are many things which other countries seem to manage much better than we do.

One of these concerns the way we design and maintain our surroundings. I do not refer to the complex social problems of inner city areas or anything like that, but simply to the architecture of buildings and the design of everything else that is seen and used by the public, including the seats, the litter bins, the walking surfaces, the walls, the lights, the planting, the bus shelters and the things on private property, which nevertheless form part of the public environment.

When I compare our standards in these matters with those of many other European countries, I conclude that we are far behind, with a great deal of our work being cheap, shoddy, commonplace and ill put together. This is a pity because the quality of a nation's architecture and public design is an index, though admittedly not the only one and certainly not the most important one, of its level of culture.

This state of affairs exists in spite of the work of the planning authorities, the Design Council, the Civic Trust and its brood of local societies, and the Royal Fine Art Commission. It seems to be one of those cases, not uncommon in our society today, where lots of people are heaving away, convinced they are changing things for the better when in fact, because there is no one to take an independent, overall view, there is either no change at all or things are actually getting worse. What seems to be needed in the case of our planning is some body to oversee the position and to represent as necessary.

It is my view that the need would best be filled by a reconstituted Royal Fine Art Commission. I have been privileged to serve on the Commission and I do not seek on this occasion to criticize its work within its terms of reference. But the fact remains that for practical purposes, the Commission only pronounces on designs for buildings submitted to it by local authorities who find themselves, and the final result of these cases is a mine of all the buildings erected annually.

The Commission's throughput is not enough to be doing anything for British architecture, though it may prevent some crimes. I am not sure that the Commission should become some kind of planning authority checking every planning application—bitter experience since 1947 shows that good design does not come that way. I suggest that whilst continuing to deal with individual controversial designs, the Commission's main task should be to oversee the physical environment, to report fearlessly where things are going wrong or where things are going right and to advise on measures required of which education is likely to be the most important. Truly has it been said that people get the architecture they deserve.

Yours faithfully,  
COLIN BUCHANAN,  
Visiting Professor,  
Imperial College of Science and Technology, SW7,  
January 19.

## 'What the Papers Say'

From the Chairman of Granada Television

Sir, David Astor's strange outburst in his letter to The Times, January 19, about the programme What the Papers Say appeared the day after a large and friendly gathering of newspaper proprietors, editors and journalists had met for a lunch to celebrate the programme's 21st anniversary and to hear the announcement of its annual awards to the press.

Any evidence of a state of warfare between the media was conspicuously absent. Had Mr Astor seen even a representative sample of the 1,010 editions transmitted so far he would realize that the programme's criticism of Fleet Street is usually friendly and often appreciative. Of course there is the occasional skirmish, as there must be when criticism is lively, but any campaign to discredit the press exists only in his imagination. If Mr Astor doubts this, he could consult any of the following Maoist guerrillas, each of whom has presented a score or more editions of What the Papers Say: Brian Innes, Michael Frayn, Harry Evans, Bill Grundy, Michael Parkinson, Anthony Howard, Richard Ingrams, George Gale; or any of the founding producers: Jeremy Isaacs, David Plewright, Michael Woolfer and myself.

Yours faithfully,  
DENIS FORMAN, Chairman,  
Granada Television,  
36 Golden Square, W1,  
January 20.

## Homes for the beagles

From the Executive Director of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Sir, As a result of the enormous publicity given to us by the press we have been overwhelmed by the offers of homes for the beagles rescued by the RSPCA. Over 5,000 letters have already been received—including some from Germany—offering us an equivalent number of telephone calls.

We are happy to say that every one of the 550 dogs has now been offered a new home but only after each prospective new owner has been made aware of the difficulties to be expected with some of the animals. The RSPCA will continue to carefully monitor the welfare of these animals in their new homes.

We know that the many disappointed applicants will be relieved to know that good homes have been found for these beagles and, if their offer still stands, there are many other animals in RSPCA homes who are anxiously awaiting adoption. Yours faithfully,  
R. F. SEAGER,  
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,  
Causeway,  
Horsham,  
Sussex,  
January 17.

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Yours faithfully,  
COLIN BUCHANAN,  
Visiting Professor,  
Imperial College of Science and Technology, SW7,  
January 19.

## Entering Britain

From Mr Arthur S. Abeles

Sir, Holders of British passports, very rightly, enter a special gate when going through immigration at British airports.

People from the Commonwealth and the EEC countries also have separate channels.

The fourth division is for "All Other Passports", and that's where I found myself, 400th in line, a few mornings ago at Heathrow.

About an hour later I was able to rejoin my wife who is British and who had slipped through in no time at all.

As a resident (and taxpayer) in Britain for almost 30 years, may I suggest that one of the three privileged channels be extended to British residents?

This would spare us the need to shuffle into Britain with Jumbo-loads of tourists—and it might even, however slightly, reduce their suffering, too. Yours faithfully,  
ARTHUR ABELES,  
From the office of the Co-Chairman  
Cinema International Corporation,  
139 Piccadilly, W1,  
January 19.

## Homes for the beagles

From the Executive Director of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Sir, As a result of the enormous publicity given to us by the press we have been overwhelmed by the offers of homes for the beagles rescued by the RSPCA. Over 5,000 letters have already been received—including some from Germany—offering us an equivalent number of telephone calls.

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## LAMBETH CLEARANCES

actions for the attention of the Attorney General come too fast. Now another marginally involved seek his aid to prevent Council from knocking street of more or less old houses to make open the borough's action is a policy adopted years ago, repeatedly and formally re- and supported both by our and Tory groups in council. Lambeth has too few in its waiting list for demolition, however, 90 squatters, and some bitterness of the affair around the council's e to be seen to allow from interlopers to policies conceived (rightly) as being for the good of the borough is a crowded urban area with housing and open either need can take precedence. Houses are in resource, but so is here it is scarce. The n of the borough is

falling, and much of the pressure on the waiting list is due more to public housing policies that tie families to one place even when their jobs are gone than to fondness for the Lambeth scene. The attitude of mind that would forbid all demolitions to create space until the last homeless family has been housed is an excessive reaction to the over-masterful approach of planners ten years ago.

Unfortunately the Kennington Park plan, inherited by Lambeth council, has all the marks of that period in planning. By grassing over a street between two moderate-sized pieces of open space, it is intended to create one large space, very handsome on the map. The acreage of green per head would be marginally increased, but there would be almost no increase in the number of people within easy reach of a park. The convenient radius for prams and small footballers is only a few hundred yards, especially if a busy road intervenes. What is wanted in overcrowded areas—a series of public meetings in connexion with the Lambeth borough plan confirmed last year—is small parks and plenty of them.

It is inconceivable that the Kennington Park plan would be adopted today if it was a new idea. A council is not necessarily wrong in holding to a project when fashion has turned against it, but the new situation does oblige it to examine its purposes more critically than Lambeth seems to have done. There is no chance of turning St Agnes Place into parkland for years—the GLC has not even been asked for permission to close the road yet. In the meantime the houses could be used for temporary accommodation—an offer has been made to restore them at no cost to the council. But rather than wait to see whether the pendulum of fashion would swing back or not, and ignoring the fact that a court injunction to restrain them was being sought, the council sent in the bulldozers, and several houses were demolished. When councillors consider the matter again next week, they should at pains not to let their feud with the squatters and their determination to have their own way distort their appreciation of the real needs of their community.

## CHARTISTS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ors of "Charter 77"—Czechoslovak manifesto on rights published two years ago—had clearly taken care in drafting it, in signatures for it, and in doing it, to do nothing the law, even in a where law is used to regime established by antily illegal action of oops. They did not not, for to produce and h a manifesto was nably an act of great irect was to demonstrate nous gap between the of the regime and the to which it officially t. The manifesto began ring to the United nventions on civil and ights and on economic, ad cultural rights—gazzetted in Czechoslovak last year—and to the of the Helsinki confereces of copies of which ally published and dis- throughout Czechoslovak and the whole Soviet id it went on to list ways in which those al commitments are violated in the daily Czechoslovak state.

To make this demonstration effective, it was necessary to have a regime of any even remotely convincing excuse for suppressing the manifesto and punishing its authors. That is why they were so careful to emphasize that they were not constituting a political group or an organized movement. But at the same time they must have been well aware that they were issuing a challenge to which the regime could not fail to react; and it has reacted, predictably enough, with further infringements of the human rights of those whom it considers responsible.

More than a hundred of the signatories are thought to have been affected by the wave of arrests and interrogations since the manifesto was published. (Published, that is, in the West—for while the official Czechoslovak papers have carried numerous protest statements and resolutions condemning it, they have not of course published the text itself, though it is known to be circulating covertly.) At least six intellectuals or former politicians are known to have been dismissed from their jobs for signing the charter, including its principal author, Dr Zdenek Mlynar. Most seriously, four

people have been charged with "serious criminal activities directed against the foundations of the republic". Mr Jiri Lederer and Mr Vaclav Havel in particular face charges which carry heavy prison sentences.

The final act of the Helsinki conference links human rights directly with détente, and gives Western governments both the right and the duty to protest about such blatant infringements. The authors of the charter—who reject the label "dissident intellectuals" and proudly describe themselves as citizens and workers—have explicitly asked for political support from democratic, socialist and communist parties and governments in the West to save them from being "badgered to death" or subjected to "illegal political trials on trumped up charges". The authorities in Prague, though they dare not let their critics' voice be heard, fear also to jeopardise détente. It must be made clear to them that if they continue to harass the authors of "Charter 77" that is precisely what they are doing. From them of all people, no protest about "interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state" need be taken seriously.

confranchise large numbers of people as would the Government proposals. I believe that the Government will be well advised to follow the recommendations of the Occupational Pensions Board who have advocated that participation should be on a voluntary basis. This would enable arrangements to be made which best suit the membership of individual pension schemes, whether they are represented by unions or not. The legislation being considered by the Government would be divisive and contrary to any sense of natural justice.

Yours, etc.  
K. J. AUSTIN,  
Director of Pensions,  
Tube Investments Limited,  
11 House,  
Five Ways,  
Birmingham.  
January 11.

## schemes

J. Austin  
S. McLeod, Chairman of the Social Security Committee, (The Times, December 17) properly challenged a statement made by the State, Mr Stanley Orme, recent interview with him on the implications of the Government's proposals for participation in the occupational pension schemes of course have an interest in the pension for their members. How Government White Paper on Pension Schemes—the members in the Running of the schemes that trade unions exclusive rights to the

appointment of 50 per cent of the representatives on the controlling bodies of pension funds, even if the trade unions have negotiating rights for only a small proportion of the membership of a scheme.

The Minister asserts that "the vast majority of people in pension schemes are trade unionists". Mr McLeod rightly challenged the Minister to substantiate this statement. Those concerned with pension schemes know of many instances where schemes include a very high proportion of members who are not collectively represented by trade unions.

An increasing number of companies with occupational pension schemes have provisions for member participation in the management of the funds and the administration of the schemes. These arrangements are not exclusive and do not dis-





## COURT CIRCULAR

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
January 20: The Duchess of Gloucester visited the Kids National Centre for Cued Speech in Sedlescombe Road, London, SW16.

Miss Susanna Croyer was in attendance.

**YORK HOUSE**  
January 20: The Duke of Kent today visited the factory of Rota-print Limited, NW9, in connection with the British Overseas Trade Board's North London and Luton Export Conference.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, was attended by Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN.

Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, has gone abroad and will be returning to England in early April.

A memorial service for Lord Forester will be held at All Saints' Church, Bromley, on Monday, January 24 at 2.30 pm.

A memorial service for Dr Philip Carter will be held on Friday, February 11 at 3.30 pm, in Southwick Cathedral.

The Opera and Ballet Kids in aid of Kids will take place at the London Coliseum on March 27.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr E. J. Paul Knappe and Miss S. M. R. Troup**  
The engagement is announced between Mr E. J. Paul Knappe, son of Mr and Mrs E. J. Paul Knappe, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid, and Sara Melisande, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Troup, KCB, DSC, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid, and Sara Melisande, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Troup, KCB, DSC, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid, and Sara Melisande, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Troup, KCB, DSC, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid.

**Mr M. J. Fitch Kemp and Miss C. W. Watson**  
The engagement is announced between Mr M. J. Fitch Kemp, son of Mr and Mrs Fitch Kemp, of Seven Springs, Bournemouth, and Miss C. W. Watson, daughter of Mr and Mrs Watson, of 1 Ermin Park, Brockwood, Gloucestershire.

**Mr W. R. C. Jackson and Miss N. M. Davis**  
The engagement is announced between Mr W. R. C. Jackson, son of Mr and Mrs W. R. C. Jackson, of Rounton, Lincolnshire, and Miss N. M. Davis, daughter of Mr and Mrs Davis, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid, and Sara Melisande, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Troup, KCB, DSC, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid.

**Mr A. R. D. McArthur and Miss S. D. Cheshire**  
The engagement is announced between Mr A. R. D. McArthur, son of Mr and Mrs A. R. D. McArthur, of Causton House, Combe Hay, Bath, and Miss S. D. Cheshire, daughter of Mr and Mrs Cheshire, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid, and Sara Melisande, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Troup, KCB, DSC, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid.

**Mr R. J. Scholtes and Miss K. E. Keogh**  
The engagement is announced between Mr R. J. Scholtes, son of Mr and Mrs R. J. Scholtes, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid, and Miss K. E. Keogh, daughter of Mr and Mrs Keogh, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid, and Sara Melisande, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Troup, KCB, DSC, of 10, Oris 22 Madrid.

**Mr C. L. Urwin and Miss T. L. Maitland**  
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**Mr J. M. B. Pratt and Miss M. M. Brooksmith**  
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**Mr D. W. Hutton and Miss J. Ashworth**  
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## New clinical college proposed at Oxford

From Our Correspondent Oxford

Proposals for the foundation of a new college at Oxford will be debated by the University Council on February 8. The name suggested is Radcliffe College and its members would be mainly graduates of the medical schools.

It would be housed in the Radcliffe Observatory, including the Wingfield, the eighteenth-century architectural masterpiece, and the auxiliary buildings. They will become fully available for the college with the completion of the second phase of the John Radcliffe Hospital at Headington, which is expected to be in full operation by 1979.

The university authorities, who have been discussing the proposals since 1965, think that because of the growth towards an intake each year of a hundred clinical students, and a total of 300 by 1981, the present financial arrangements to support teaching will be inadequate. Action is needed to provide a new and more efficient use of the features of the Oxford clinical course, are to be maintained.

It is felt that there is a need to offer junior membership in a new society to clinical students because they have to work long hours and have to be in Oxford for 46 weeks in a year. The students are drawn together by a sense of vocation for social as well as academic needs. Their present social life is often very lonely and they become seriously overcrowded as the total of clinical students rises towards 300.

The Radcliffe Observatory site and buildings, next door to the Radcliffe Infirmary, would require no outlay except for the conversion, partly to provide students with a place to live. Money would be needed to endow the new society, which would aim at becoming self-sufficient as quickly as possible.

Sir Richard Doll, Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford, said a number of benefactions had been received since the society was founded in 1965. He said the society would be a small-scale one that would have a number of trustees, including the Radcliffe Trustees, and there is a promise of support from Blackwell's Oxford bookshops and publishers.

Sir Richard said: "The new society can be established only if it is not a drain on university resources. It will be a small-scale one that would have a number of trustees, including the Radcliffe Trustees, and there is a promise of support from Blackwell's Oxford bookshops and publishers."

The hope was that the university would continue to maintain facilities for the clinical school for students, but that eventually the new society would be able to do without that.

Although the junior membership would be predominantly clinical students, the senior membership would be drawn not only from clinicians but from non-clinical disciplines.

Sir Richard thought questions might be raised about the proposed departure from the multi-disciplinary tradition of Oxford colleges by concentrating junior membership almost exclusively on a single discipline, but it should not be regarded as a completely new venture in that respect.

**University news**  
Manchester  
Dr T. Robson, MA, PhD (Cantab), lecturer in geography at Cambridge University, has been appointed to a chair of geography from October 1, in succession to Professor T. W. Freeman.



# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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### Half £1,250m tap relieved sold s market awaits it in MLR

Government's aim of  
back at least ten-  
ty, the sharp fall in yield-  
ing on the gilt-edged  
through the issue of a  
"tap" stock looked  
as if it might be suc-  
cessful.

Bank of England never  
any official disclosure on  
the amount of stock ap-  
proval when it puts a new  
offer, but market esti-  
mated that yesterday's  
applications probably  
in the region of £500m-  
will leave a considerable  
of stock in the Bank's  
with which to regulate  
market and may well lead  
in the recent surge  
prices of long-dated gilts.  
The same time it is  
expected that the Bank  
to ease short-term  
y lowering its minimum  
rate from 14 to 13 per  
cent this afternoon.  
This brings the drop to one  
point since MLR was  
15 per cent as a crisis  
last October.  
The easing was  
companied by an easing

in interest rates in the  
bank market, it could also  
lead the clearing banks to consider  
a reduction in their base lend-  
ing rates. These currently  
stand at 14 per cent.

The pressure on the Bank to  
allow interest rates to fall still  
faster, however, remains con-  
siderable, with the authorities  
continuing policy of issuing gov-  
ernment debt at what are con-  
sidered to be over-attractive  
levels, placing a heavy strain on  
the liquidity and of the banking  
and money market system.

Also, two leading gilt brokers  
have questioned the authorities  
present policy this week.  
In its monthly *Monetary*  
*Bulletin*, W. Greenwell sug-  
gested that holding up interest  
rates and maximizing gilt sales  
were likely to restrain the  
growth in money supply to a  
degree that threatened econo-  
mic growth.

In its *Weekly Monitor*,  
Kemp-Gee speaks of the folly  
of the current King Canute  
stance and says that the attempt  
to hike the elude in interest rates  
is likely to prove "temporary  
and misguided".  
Financial Editor, page 19

### ares surge farther ahead

id-Mott  
professional investors  
ing to take advantage  
long-term economic  
ts, the equity market  
progress for the sixth  
five day.  
77 30-share Index closed  
386.9, its best level for  
this and a gain of almost  
15 over the six sessions.  
High single profit making  
any prices below their

potentially best levels, dealers  
said the demand was more  
widely spread than for several  
days. When the interest wanted  
after lunch, the underlying tone  
stayed firm in the prospect of  
at least a half-point cut in the  
minimum lending rate today.

There was also a feeling that  
many would-be investors stayed  
away from the equity market  
pending the outcome of applica-  
tions for the new long "tap".

### ibudsman critical of T inquiry methods

Financial Staff  
Department of Trade's  
of publishing com-  
mon individuals in its  
on company investi-  
gations, the inquiry  
criticized by the Par-  
liamentary Commissioner in a  
report today.

Jwal Pugh, the Com-  
missioner, says that in deciding  
or is not a "fit and  
person to run a busi-  
ness" the Department cannot  
solely by firm evi-  
dence, but also by "the  
of such power is to be  
to be free of arbitrariness  
certain administrative  
principles must be  
applied."

erson whose fitness is  
should be told clearly  
why the Depart-  
ment is considering his  
fit-ness given full and fair  
ity for answering the  
g's comments form

part of his report into the  
Castle Life Assurance case,  
referred to him in 1975 by Mr  
Norman Fowler, Conservative  
MP for Sutton Coldfield and  
Opposition spokesman on  
Transport, who plans to raise  
the question of appeals on DoT  
reports in Parliament.

Castle, a small life office,  
was the first company ordered  
to stop taking new business in  
April, 1974 under section 13 of  
the Insurance Companies  
Act, 1963.

Following a DoT investiga-  
tion the insurance company's  
controller was declared "not a  
fit and proper person" by the  
Department. But now the Com-  
missioner has instructed Mr  
Trell, the Secretary of State for  
Trade, to carry out a fresh re-  
view of the case.

Mr Pugh feels that the Castle  
investigation was "unsatisfac-  
tory in certain respects", and  
although the case was recon-  
sidered he believes that the  
"reconsideration was itself not  
satisfactory".

Link with NEDC proposed as way to boost authority of Parliament

### Lord Plowden's new industry role for MPs

By Maurice Corina  
Industrial Editor  
Lord Plowden, former chair-  
man of Tube Investments, yester-  
day proposed giving Parlia-  
ment a wider role in its sur-  
veillance of Government-indus-  
try relations by linking the  
National Economic Development  
Council to a new select commit-  
tee of MPs.

He suggested that the au-  
thority of Parliament was being  
undermined by the independent  
power of industry and the trade  
unions. Parliament was ceasing  
to be the effective source of  
power.

Lord Plowden declared: "In  
my opinion, there is a real dan-  
ger that if Governments con-  
tinue to encroach on the pri-  
vate sector and to lay burdens  
on what remains of it, in the  
way that has been done in re-  
cent years, we are not far from

the end of the mixed economy  
as we have known it."

"It is also my opinion that  
the growth of the power of the  
trade unions is encroaching  
upon the power of Parliament.  
It is a commonplace of politi-  
cal theory that responsibility  
ought to lie where power lies.  
There must be misgivings about  
whether this is the case today."

Delivering the London Busi-  
ness School's Stockton lecture,  
Lord Plowden cited as his  
qualifications a long experience  
as a senior civil servant, his  
posts in the City and in indus-  
try, and chairmanship of various  
public committees of inquiry.

The present economic and  
business situation was domina-  
ted, he said, by the conditioning  
of the electorate to believe that  
Parliament was willing and  
able to look after the mass of  
people without voters having to  
make the necessary effort on

their own behalf, and by the  
conditioning of the trade union  
movement to believe they can  
get their way by threatening to  
stop the industrial machine if  
they do not.

Both of these rested on the  
increase in the productive  
power of industry, but both led  
to a weakening of that power  
itself. The goose that laid the  
golden eggs was being starved.

There were pressures on  
Labour to extend direct own-  
ership of industry and to regard  
private industry as inefficient,  
not seeing far enough ahead,  
and not investing enough.

Lord Plowden said that the  
forces of profit and loss had been  
seriously weakened. The driving  
forces which separated the in-  
efficient from the efficient had  
weakened in both the private  
and public sectors.

Real misgivings arose not  
about organized labour seeking

to increase its power, but about  
the way in which the power  
was being used. There was a  
negative power, resting on the  
solidarity of labour even when  
other workers might be dam-  
aged. Difficulties were often put  
in the way of increasing produc-  
tivity.

Existing state concerns had to  
be run properly and profitably  
before considering any further  
nationalization.

"As an industrialist and one  
convinced of the need for  
greater participation, I would  
strongly oppose legislation of  
the kind apparently proposed  
by the majority of the Eddowes  
Committee which I believe  
would seriously set back the  
movement for greater partici-  
pation in industry."

Parliament represented the  
community, but the force lay  
with organized labour. The

problem of how and where to  
reach agreement on saving the  
mixed economy required a  
policy of helping industry and  
commerce, halting more nationa-  
lization, a move to greater  
employee participation, design-  
ing an improved framework for  
settling wages, a community-  
wide monetary policy, and a  
continuing dialogue between  
Government and both sides of  
industry on future develop-  
ments.

Today, the nation had ready  
at hand the NEDC as a forum in  
which Government and indus-  
try could discuss and evolve  
policies which, had the best  
chance of producing wealth for  
the community. If political  
dangers were to be avoided, he  
suggested adding to it a respon-  
sibility to report regularly and  
fully on its deliberations to the  
Select Committee of Parliament.

### Red faces in Italy over jobs for the boys rebuff

Italy's Communist Party is  
making itself unpopular with  
the ruling Christian Democrats  
by insisting that the chairman  
and other senior officials of  
the country's banks be selected  
for their professional merits.

For many years now the  
Government's right to appoint  
top bank officials has been  
treated as the spoils of power,  
to be divided among the ruling  
parties with the Christian  
Democrats having the lion's  
share.

It is a valuable way of  
placing former politicians,  
party officials and political  
protégés but above all ensures  
party control over an important  
part of public life. As Signor  
Armando Sarti, Communist  
deputy, put it, their men at the  
head of the banks allow the  
party "to exercise control of  
the economy and also of inter-  
national policy better than any other  
party".

A number of posts are now  
up for renewal—several have  
been vacant for years partly  
because of the conflict of pres-  
sures between various party  
factions as to who should fill  
them—and the interim  
credit committees is to meet on  
January 26 to decide on the  
new appointments.

Since the Communists now  
indirectly support the Govern-  
ment by abstaining in Parlia-  
ment, the Christian Democrats  
clearly thought they were doing  
the right thing, politically, by  
suggesting that they propose  
their own candidates for some  
of the jobs. The assumption  
was that they would then nego-  
tiate as to what jobs went to  
what parties.

They were clearly taken  
aback, therefore when the Com-  
munists replied flatly that they  
had no intention of presenting  
any candidates and demanded  
instead that the appointments  
be made on the basis of profes-  
sional competence.

The atmosphere immediately  
became icy. The Christian  
Democrats are refusing to con-  
sider any change of habits.

The Communists, meanwhile,  
have made clear that if the  
Christian Democrats persist  
they will insist on debating  
every candidate to ensure they  
have the necessary competence  
and have not been previously  
involved in corruption or other  
study deals. Moreover, they  
have threatened to challenge  
the nominations in a parliamen-  
tary debate, recalling that only  
last September the Chamber's  
Finance and Treasury Commis-  
sions issued precise recommen-  
dations as to how bank executives  
were to be selected in future.

The Communists' attitude has,  
however, been criticized by two  
leading newspapers as in-  
effective. In practical terms,  
they argue, with Italian realism,  
their refusal to submit candi-  
dates means that the Christian  
Democrats will have most of the  
posts for themselves, whereas if  
they submitted qualified candi-  
dates they would at least be  
able to get good men into some  
posts.

Patricia Clough

### Mr Benn meets EEC energy chief

Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Sec-  
retary of State for Energy (left)  
and new head of the European  
Community committee of  
Energy Ministers, held his first  
meeting with Hans Guido  
Brunner, the new energy com-  
missioner, in London yesterday.

Mr Benn has spent most of  
this week visiting his counter-  
parts in Europe and spreading  
the message that there must be  
more political realism in EEC  
thinking on energy policy.

He was able to tell the new  
commissioner that the opening  
exchanges with the French,  
Dutch, Belgian, Irish and  
Luxembourg ministers had gone  
smoothly. Today he flies to  
Italy for further talks and will  
be meeting the Germans in  
London on Monday.



### Japan Budget plans put emphasis on sharp acceleration of growth

From Peter Hazelhurst  
Tokyo, Jan 20

Taking a substantial step to  
stimulate the world's economy,  
the Japanese government  
announced today that it would  
present Parliament with a draft  
plan for a £57,000m budget  
designed to provide the country  
with a higher growth rate than  
the United States and Western  
Europe during the next fiscal  
year.

In contrast to past policies of  
holding down inflation under a  
moderate rate of growth since  
the oil crisis, the draft plan will  
attempt substantially to in-  
crease public spending in an  
effort to stimulate rapid  
growth again.

The draft Budget for the next  
fiscal year advocates an increase  
of 17 per cent in spending over  
the current budget, and was  
announced after an extra-  
ordinary meeting of the  
Cabinet whittled down pro-  
posed tax cuts, and sub-  
sequently increased appropri-  
ations for public works.

The draft, which is expected  
to touch off a stormy session in  
Parliament, was immediately  
attacked by major opposition  
parties today on the grounds  
that it was primarily designed  
to cater for the interests of big  
business.

Complying with President-  
elect Carter's plea for fiscal  
policies which would pull the  
world out of the current  
economic recession, the Cabinet  
gave approval to the final  
version of its draft Budget this  
morning, increasing spending  
on public works by 21.2 per  
cent to £8,500m as a major  
means of stimulating growth.

Mr Takeo Fukuda, the  
Prime Minister, said later today  
that the draft Budget plan was  
designed to provide Japan with  
an increased growth rate of  
6.7 per cent in real terms  
during the fiscal year. "This  
will exceed the growth rate of  
the United States and major  
European nations. Our policy  
is one of contributing steadily  
to the stable development of  
the world economy in a spirit  
of solidarity through inter-

national cooperation. The  
future development of Japan's  
economy is being watched with  
keen interest by other countries  
and the present budget  
responds to such expectations,  
in and out of the country", Mr  
Fukuda said.

Business leaders, including  
Mr Toshio Doko, the president  
of the Keidanren, the powerful  
federation of economic orga-  
nizations, welcomed the outline  
of the draft plan, but Japan's  
five major opposition parties,  
which virtually control the  
Diet's budgetary committee,  
condemned Mr Fukuda's fiscal  
proposals.

Under the draft plan—which  
provides for a 30 per cent  
deficit in revenue financing—the  
Government has whittled  
down demands for £2,000m in  
tax cuts to £800m. Socialists  
and communists also claimed  
that the plan gave priority to  
large appropriations for public  
works spending, while the out-  
lay for social welfare had in-  
creased by only 17 per cent, a  
reversal of the pattern in recent  
years.

### Call to revise draft on inflation accounting

By Our Financial Staff

A call for the Morpeth ex-  
posure draft on inflation  
accounting to be revised to  
allow certain financial institu-  
tions to make a prax profit  
deduction to cover alteration in  
the value of free capital, was  
made yesterday by Mr F. W.  
Hewitt, director and general  
manager of the National West-  
minster Bank.

Mr Hewitt commented that  
under present proposals "while  
profits of industrial companies  
will be redefined at a stroke  
to about half the historical con-  
vention level, those of banks  
will not change significantly—  
but, alas, we are not immune  
to the effects of inflation".

Speaking to a London con-  
ference organized by the Insti-  
tute of Chartered Accountants  
in England and Wales, he sug-  
gested that each eligible finan-  
cial institution should be re-  
quired "to make above the line  
arriving at its pretax profit  
for the year a mandatory  
deduction of an amount neces-  
sary to compensate for any  
change in the real value of its  
free capital during the account-  
ing period".

The change in the real value  
would be calculated from the  
volume of free capital and the  
change in a deflator during the  
accounting period.

Mr Hewitt suggested that the  
deflator could be a monetary  
aggregate, such as M3, or a

general deflator, such as the  
gross domestic product deflator.

Meanwhile, an Inland Revenue  
consultative document on the  
tax treatment of stock  
under CCA proposals will be  
published in about two months' time, Mr Stanley Clinton Davis,  
Under Secretary of State for  
Companies, Aviation and Ship-  
ping, said at the conference.

On government and legal im-  
plications of the proposed  
accounting system, he said that  
there were three main issues  
involved. First, whether any  
amendment of the Companies  
Acts would be necessary or  
desirable to permit the intro-  
duction of CCA.

The ultimate decision here,  
said Mr Davis, is likely to be  
determined by the EEC fourth  
directive on company accounts  
which will probably come into  
force in about 1980.

Secondly, there is concern  
about the effect of CCA on  
contractual documents. It had  
been suggested, he said, that  
there should be some statutory  
provision dealing with the in-  
terpretation of contracts entered  
into before the introduction of  
CCA.

The alternative was to leave  
parties to renegotiate.

Finally, there was the ques-  
tion of whether the Companies  
Acts should be amended to  
include a statutory definition  
of distributable profits.

### Disruption at Halewood

Fords of Halewood, Liverpool,  
ran into trouble twice yesterday  
as a result of one dispute,  
1,500 workers in the assembly  
plant will be laid off on today's  
shift. Production: loss will be 500  
cars worth about £1m.

Some 300 men in the press  
shop went home at midday in a  
dispute over the mobility of  
the second dispute arose in  
the body plant when a welder  
was sacked for carving initials  
with a welding torch on a weld-  
ing booth.

### Mitton Butler Priest & Co

In the report of *Mitton  
Butler Priest & Co Ltd* (in  
*Liquidation v Ross and Others*)  
in the Law Report on Decem-  
ber 22 it was stated that all 17  
defendants had been declared  
defunct by the Stock Ex-  
change. In fact, three defen-  
dants, the 15th, 16th and 17th,  
were expressly stated not to  
have been declared defuncts.  
Those three defendants were  
Mr A. Kemball-Price, Mr R. F.  
W. Patterson and Mr J. A. M.  
Marr. We regret the error and  
wish to apologize to them.

Patricia Clough

### rysler modifies Iran contract

rd Townsend  
Corporation of  
whose United King-  
dom subsidiary was  
rescued last week  
by British Govern-  
ment up to £162m of pub-  
lic money has agreed to a major  
revision to its contract for  
of British-made cars

ley, Secretary of State  
disclosed in the  
yesterday that the  
n had waived the pro-  
visions of the contract with  
the national Manufacturing  
which limits INM to  
in Chrysler cars only,  
shipments of Chry-  
sler cars in kit form to  
be not to be affected,  
in company is now free

to negotiate deals with other  
world manufacturers. The con-  
tract with Chrysler expires in  
1981.

Under the terms of its deal  
with the Government, the Chry-  
sler Corporation undertook to  
"use its best endeavours"  
to ensure that INM should con-  
tinue to obtain from Chrysler  
UK knocked-down packs and  
parts for assembly into cars.

Mr Varley, answering a Com-  
mons question about the clause,  
said that Chrysler had kept him  
informed of discussions with  
INM directed to improve their  
joint working arrangements and  
safeguarding future volumes of  
supply to 1980 and beyond. The  
provision in the INM contract  
had been waived at the Iranian  
company's request.

He added that Mr Dell, Sec-  
retary of State for Trade, in  
Iran last week for the fifth  
session of the Iran-UK Joint  
Ministerial Economic Com-  
mission, discussed with the Iranian  
Government the relationship be-  
tween the two companies and  
their intentions for develop-  
ments.

"I am satisfied that the  
modification proposed in the  
agreement between the compa-  
nies does not diminish the safe-  
guards for the supply of packs  
and parts from this country,"  
Mr Varley said.

At the time of the Chrysler  
UK rescue, the preserving of  
the Iranian business was con-  
sidered by the Government to be  
of paramount importance.

### In brief

#### BNOC shares in fresh offshore discovery

An oil discovery has been  
made in the British sector of  
the North Sea close to the  
median line with Norwegian  
waters and about two miles  
north of the commercial  
Murchison field.

Conoco, the operator for a  
consortium that includes the  
British National Oil Corpora-  
tion and Gulf Oil, said a well  
on the structure by the rig  
Dundee Kingsnorth had flowed  
5,500 barrels of oil a day from  
"a relatively thin pay zone".

Further drilling will be  
needed to determine whether  
the discovery, about 130 miles  
north east of the Shetlands, will  
be commercially exploitable.  
However, its closeness to the  
Murchison field improves its  
prospects.

Conoco has ordered designs  
for a steel platform for Murchi-  
son but tenders for the struc-  
ture will not be invited until  
later in the year.

holding its annual meeting  
with the 14-nation association  
of West European shipbuilders,  
in Tokyo, to reach an under-  
standing on the condition of  
the industry in Japan and  
Western Europe.

#### New attack on tax plan for working overseas

The Institute of Taxation has  
joined the critics of the Inland  
Revenue's proposed amend-  
ments for the taxation of people  
working abroad. The main pro-  
posal is that for a period of 30  
continuous days anyone will be  
able to deduct 25 per cent of  
earnings before arriving at his  
chargeable income.

The Institute argues that  
people whose jobs take them  
away for less than 30 days  
deserve the same treatment to  
compensate for the disruption  
and hardship suffered.

#### £21m orders for BSC

A two-man team from the  
British Steel Corporation's  
Sheffield division's works have  
returned from North America  
and Mexico with orders worth  
\$36m (about £21m) and in the  
Scunthorpe division nearly 35  
per cent of output in the first  
quarter of this year will go to  
meet a record export load, with  
orders from Europe, South  
America, the Middle East, the  
near East, and India, worth  
£25m.

#### Redcar sit-in

More than 100 men employed  
by Pipework Engineering Devel-  
opment, a British Steel Cor-  
poration subsidiary, were sitting-in  
at the £1,500m Redcar steel com-  
plex yesterday over a wages  
grievance. There are 3,400  
construction workers on the  
site.

#### 1,200 steel jobs to go

Nearly 1,200 men employed  
at British Steel Corporation's  
big oil construction yard at  
Methil, Fife, will lose their  
jobs by May, union leaders said  
yesterday. The management has  
blamed the emeasours on a lack  
of orders.

#### Soviet oil price up

The Soviet Union, following  
world price trends, has raised  
the price of its oil sold to  
eastern Europe by 22.5 per  
cent, according to reports from  
Budapest. Hungary is now pay-  
ing 49 roubles (around \$65) a  
tonne, a rise of nine roubles  
over 1976.

#### Call to shipbuilders

Japan Shipbuilding Associa-  
tion said in Tokyo yesterday  
that it would shortly propose

### the markets moved

The Times index : 162.05 + 2.03  
The FT index : 386.9 + 5.3

#### THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$	1.63	1.58
Austria Sch	30.50	28.50
Belgium Fr	66.25	63.25
Canada \$	71.75	69.75
Denmark Kr	10.50	10.10
Finland Mkk	6.75	6.50
France Fr	8.77	8.45
Germany Dm	4.30	4.08
Greece Dr	74.00	70.00
US \$	8.40	7.95
Italy Lr	1620.00	1540.00
Japan Yen	320.00	295.00
Netherlands Gld	4.50	4.28
Norway Kr	5.29	5.03
Portugal Esc	59.50	56.00
S Africa Rd	2.13	1.98
Spain Pes	121.75	113.50
Sweden Kr	7.57	7.22
Switzerland Fr	4.46	4.24
US \$	1.76	1.71
Vogelslar Dm	34.75	32.50

SDR-\$ was 1.15425 on Wednesday,  
while SDR-£ was 0.671740.  
Commodities: Reuters' index  
closed yesterday at a fresh peak  
of 1,610.4 (previously 1,605.8).  
Reports, pages 21 and 22

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## Office of Fair Trading proposes new laws covering VAT

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor

New laws including a clear statement of Value Added Tax payable when prices for goods or services are given, were proposed yesterday by Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

The proposals, which the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee is being asked to approve, have been brought in by the Office of Fair Trading because of what it has found to be a widespread practice of quoting prices exclusive of VAT.

The OFT said yesterday that there was no doubt that prices quoted without VAT misled and confuse consumers about the actual prices they would have to pay.

It was difficult for price comparisons to be made when, as seemed to happen in most

trades, both VAT-inclusive and VAT-exclusive prices were quoted for goods at different outlets.

If the proposals go through it would end practices such as listing prices with the added message "plus VAT" or "all prices subject to VAT" or without the actual rate of VAT being given.

"Once a consumer feels he is committed to buying something—especially a meal in a restaurant—it may be due to forgetfulness on the part of the trader or businessman, but it could reflect an attempt to make the price more attractive. This situation can occur for instance when verbal quotations

are given for repair work."

The OFT has evidence of VAT-exclusive quotations happening in a wide range of retailing and services. These include carpets and household furnishings, car spares, do-it-yourself materials, gardening goods, electrical and electronic goods, yacht equipment, musical instruments, timber, typewriters and wallpaper.

They also include builders and plumbers, car hire, hairdressing, hotels and restaurants, repair work, professional services including estate agents and upholsterers.

The proposals, which will go to Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, for a decision on legislation, do not cover prices quoted by one trader to another. Nor would they make compulsory a display of prices on goods.

## Jamaica imposes a wages, price freeze and raises taxes

Kingston, Jan 20—Mr

Michael Manley, Prime Minister of Jamaica, last night announced stringent foreign exchange controls, higher taxes and a six-month freeze on prices and wages as part of tough measures aimed at putting the Jamaican economy back on its feet.

But Mr Manley said the Jamaican dollar would not be devalued. The country would be seeking a loan from the International Monetary Fund, but he would not accept devaluation as a condition.

The wide-ranging economic programme also includes the nationalization of a cement company, a large petrol price increase and hefty cuts in politicians' salaries, including that of Mr Manley.

Mr Manley confirmed reports that Jamaica's import bill for 1977 would be restricted to Jamaican \$600m (about £388m). He said this amount would have to include repayment of the national debt.

In a three-hour speech to Parliament, the Prime Minister said Jamaica would be seeking to trade with Comecon countries and would establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

With immediate effect all commercial banks in Jamaica will no longer be allowed to buy or sell foreign exchange on their own account, Mr Manley said. Instead they would have to act as agents for the Central Bank of Jamaica.

In other moves aimed at stopping money leaving the country, he said expatriate Jamaicans would no longer be permitted any capital or income allowances and people leaving the country in future would get only one month's allowance up to a maximum of Jamaican \$10,000.

Jamaicans would also no longer be allowed to send money to dependents abroad, and only on special humanitarian grounds would beneficiaries abroad under will be allowed to receive their inheritance.

Essential business travel abroad will still be allowed, but on a rigidly restricted basis. Otherwise Jamaicans will only be given a Jamaican \$50 travel allowance, which means they will have to give up taking holidays abroad.

In an effort to repatriate funds, Mr Manley said that legislation was being drafted to force and restrict banks into holding bank accounts and assets abroad to liquidate them.

Increases in income tax will affect only people in the surplus bracket, but current rates from 60 to 70 per cent for incomes between Jamaican \$20,000 and \$30,000 and to 80 per cent for incomes above Jamaican \$30,000.

All allowances in cash or kind, apart from bona fide business travel allowances, will be in effect until July 1, but Mr Manley said that for government workers no pay increases would be entertained before October 1.—Reuters

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In an effort to repatriate funds, Mr Manley said that legislation was being drafted to force and restrict banks into holding bank accounts and assets abroad to liquidate them.

Increases in income tax will affect only people in the surplus bracket, but current rates from 60 to 70 per cent for incomes between Jamaican \$20,000 and \$30,000 and to 80 per cent for incomes above Jamaican \$30,000.

All allowances in cash or kind, apart from bona fide business travel allowances, will be in effect until July 1, but Mr Manley said that for government workers no pay increases would be entertained before October 1.—Reuters

stopping money leaving the country, he said expatriate Jamaicans would no longer be permitted any capital or income allowances and people leaving the country in future would get only one month's allowance up to a maximum of Jamaican \$10,000.

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## Brewers' production plans to cost £400m

By Ronald Emler

British brewers are to undertake capital expenditure of about £400m by the end of the decade. While much of this will be part of Allied Breweries' £164m development plans announced on Tuesday, most big brewers are in the process of increasing their capacity or reshaping their product range.

It is estimated that by 1980 about £200m will have been spent on production facilities.

Courage is building a new £50m brewery at Reading and spending £6.5m on a new brew-house and canning plant at Tadcaster, Yorkshire. A £4m extension is also being constructed at Tadcaster to brew Harp Lager.

Scottish & Newcastle is choosing a site for its new north-eastern brewery, which it is believed will have a lagging facility. It is expected that the choice will be Washington, co Durham, and that the project will cost about £40m.

Whitbread's new Magor brewery at Newport, Gwent, is due to open in 1979 as first as a larger plant.

## North Sea spending hits companies

By David Blake  
Economics Correspondent

Heavy investment in the North Sea are deeply into the financial position of industrial and commercial companies during the third quarter of 1976, according to figures released yesterday.

In the six months ending September 1976, companies recorded a financial surplus of £100m, the product of a favourable second quarter in which they recorded a surplus of £400m and a less good third quarter when they had a deficit of £300m. The previous six months had a surplus of £300m.

The companies sector recorded increased profits up to £700m to £7,300m. But this was because of a sharp increase in the value of stock. Without this there would have been no significant rise in profits, in spite of an upturn in earnings from abroad because of the depreciation of sterling and from rent and non-trading income.

One group which does not forecast major outlay on increased production facilities is Bass Charrington, Britain's biggest brewer.

## Spending up except on food

By Melvyn Westlake

Consumer spending rose at an annual rate of 1.2 per cent in the fourth quarter, according to figures published by the Central Statistical Office yesterday. However, the rise between 1975 and 1976 is shown to have been no more than 0.6 per cent.

The increase in the fourth quarter seems to have been mostly attributable to an increase in expenditure on alcohol. There was also a rise in spending on fuel and light.

By contrast, there was a drop in expenditure on food, while other areas of spending were unchanged.

The fourth quarter rise in consumption appears to result, at least in part, from the drop in savings that has been recorded recently. All the available evidence suggests that personal disposable income remains under considerable pressure as phase two of the Government's pay policy continues to hold increases below the rate at which prices are rising.

The level of consumption has been boosted recently by up-rating of pensions and social security payments in November and tax rebates.

## CONSUMER SPENDING

The following are figures for consumer expenditure seasonally adjusted at constant 1970 prices, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday.

	£m	%
1974 Q1	8,880	-5.6
Q2	8,841	-1.7
Q3	8,963	5.6
Q4	9,057	4.3
1975 Q1	9,289	-3.0
Q2	8,851	-6.3
Q3	8,776	-3.4
Q4	8,758	-0.8
1976 Q1	8,876	5.5
Q2	8,812	-2.9
Q3	8,828	5.4
Q4	8,955	1.2

Q revised  
P provisional

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### After phase two an equitable pay formula which restores differentials

From Mr F. P. Jenkin

Sir, It is now generally recognized that phase three of the pay policy should do something to restore differentials but there remains a need to find a particular formulation which will allow this while at the same time appearing equitable.

I suggest that something along the following lines should be included as part of the phase three agreement:—

1. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the policy, unions shall be entitled to negotiate to ensure that no individual is more than 10-15 per cent (figure to be chosen) worse off than at the start of the pay policy on August 1, 1975.

2. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the policy, firms shall be entitled to restore differentials between people in established posts and their direct subordinates up to a differential of 10 per cent.

3. Specific pay agreements negotiated before August 1, 1975, should be payable from August 1, 1977, in addition to the phase three settlement. This should include payment of the Boyle recommendations for the salaries of nationalized industries' executives.

The formula (1) could be interpreted in more than one way, but it allows a reasonable rise for those people whose incomes were most restricted under phase one and two while, at the same time, asking them to make a clearly defined sacrifice which is more than that made by the lower paid worker.

In particular, the proposals should allow an equitable settlement to be made of the claim

of the directors of the Cable and Wireless Company, which is currently exercising the Government's right to intervene.

Yours faithfully,  
F. P. JENKIN,  
24 Parkhouse Gardens,  
Twickenham, TW1 2DE,  
January 10.

From Mr David Torrell  
Sir, It seems probable, we must assume that restraint of wages and salaries will continue to be in practice if not in theory, necessary for several years ahead, the choice of an effective and generally acceptable basis of restraint is clearly crucial. I invite comments on a suggestion whose simplicity I distrust but whose flaws are not apparent to me.

The proposal is that the rate of wage and salary increases should be limited to three-fifths of the rate of increase of added value in each company or operating unit.

The period of assessment would be limited to a maximum of five quarters, but could be reduced by agreement to a smaller whole number of quarters.

The benefits of such a system would be: that for the majority of employees the basis of calculation is already impartially established for VAT purposes; that it would be seen to be simple and fair; that it would preserve differentials; and that it would tend to compensate both employees and proprietors for inflation while being directly related to productivity.

There would be some additional administrative effort required of businesses dealing wholly or partly in zero-rated goods or services, but to an extent which seems unlikely to

be a useful turn of acid phrase. He scatters criticism with the accuracy of a blunderbuss and totally fails to support any single point with more than superficial rhetoric; reasoned argument is nowhere.

The expert draft and the accounting profession must be improved. But Mr Clayton's superficial approach is that of a dilettante inflation-accounting gossip writer rather than a serious contributor to this important national debate.

Yours faithfully,  
WALTER SCRIBBS,  
42 Rosebury Road,  
London, SW6 2NG,  
January 18.

cause severe difficulty. Example businesses could be uncontrolled with overall effect.

Since public acceptance is essential to an effective policy, the admitted cost of the three-fifths proposal is to be calculated: three-fifths of increase of added value goes to the management who create it, affording them both a and some degree of control over the remuneration which businesses would be additional scope for investment and development. Natural manpower would be insufficient to meet the increased demand and would establish a new cost equilibrium.

If such a scheme maintained for (say) five years it might make a significant contribution to the growth of productivity, the creation of which controls could be based.

Policy in the non-earning portion of the sector, and the adjustment differentials where pay has distorted them, are which need to be considered. On the first I have a (able) suggestion to the second I suggest a sound basis that a board could be employed record scheme in which the remuneration of a were reduced for a not less than three years. Yours faithfully,

DAVID TORRELL,  
3 Elmwood Court,  
Pershore Road,  
Birmingham B5 7PB,  
January 17.

Computer programming in shops and the elder

From Mr Hugh Faulkner  
Sir, I note from your January 18 that the reached an advanced stage a computer code au system which could speed up supermarket out procedures and be need for price labels produced on individual products.

It is to be hoped it not mean that the no longer be clearly at present, on or add each article selected shelves.

We are told that the tronic cash register products as they pass the check-out could be give the shopper, by receipt, an itemized list of purchases. One presumes over, that some sort of code numbers would be able at or near the ch

It is unfortunately sh however, that elderly sh often short-sighted, are be flustered as their pu are tetter up for paym they had no means of ing in advance the price article which they had up their might be in to nasty shocks. If they fumble for seconds a to study hurriedly a list was bound to be long a fusing, at any rate to with what some of them as the wheel of the ch queue would be even m concerning than it is sh

Any measure which in the efficiency of the d tive trades is to be a But there has been a te in recent years to t efficiency from the t men's point of view by the shopper do more work. I wonder whether shoppers have been c about this new idea. Aged would be delish supply some guide-shoppers of varying age in the retiree group, and be interested to see reaction.

On behalf of elderl tomers in particular, one like to be assured that number plan in question designed to make the t task of reordering shop more efficiently accor at the expense of incoo ing the shopper.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH FAULKNER,  
Honorary Director,  
Help the Aged,  
8-10 Denman Street,  
London W1A 2AP,  
January 19.

Reduced fines

From Mr P. Urban de Ro  
Sir, Your Business New tion reports correctl January 15 that exchang trol fines of nearly £15,000 were imposed in July, have been reduc £63,000 on appeal. I w add that I was personally £18,000 and that the bal £5,000 relates to four companies in which I average holding of less th 1 per cent.

Your report refers exchange control "h Fraud was not alleged by HM Treasury or the p tion, nor was fraud ma by the magistrates of appeals bench. The de had a turnover of about £100,000, no doubt, had tried before a judge and had there been a cleme fraud—that is deception, were not so tried.

In reality the offence technical breaches of exchange control requ without loss to the reser Yours faithfully,  
PETER URBAN DE ROT,  
25 Bedford Row,  
London, WC1R 4HE,  
January 16.

## Leyland says fringe benefits 'up to men'

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Cars last night denied that it was trying to mount an eleven-hour rescue of the £50m fringe benefits deal offered to 100,000 manual workers in return for fewer unofficial strikes.

With two more factories voting against the proposed deal yesterday, union sources said the company's industrial relations staff were trying to arrange a further meeting with senior shop stewards.

But a company spokesman said: "There is little we can do now. It is in the men's own hands."

Workers at Triumph, Canley, Coventry and Jaguar, Browns Lane, Coventry, were the latest to reject the package. Triumph, Speke, and Jaguar, Radford, have already voted against it.

Two meetings, have taken place yesterday, have been postponed so that shop stewards can issue leaflets setting out the details.

Mr Reg Parsons, the senior steward for the Transport and General Workers' Union, at Cowley, complained that it was unfair to expect men to vote on such a complicated set of proposals when the company had supplied them with only a limited number of copies.

He and Mr Douglas Hobbs, his opposite number with the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, were members of the working party which spent six months negotiating the deal.

The level of consumption has been boosted recently by up-rating of pensions and social security payments in November and tax rebates.

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P provisional

## In brief

### Five new Freightliner services

Freightliners are back on the expansion track with five new services planned for this year. Mr Cyril Bleasdale, managing director, said yesterday.

Improving profitability at Freightliners clearly increases the attraction of the £40m a year Freightliners to British Rail.

Helped by containerization of the South African trade, Freightliners expect a further improvement in trading profits to nearly £2m this year on a steadily rising volume.

### Whitehall investigation of timber dropped

Investigation of prices of timber and related products appears to have been dropped in Whitehall.

The Timber Trade Federation said last night that it had been informed that a reference of timber prices to the Price Commission by the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection was not under consideration. There was no official comment from the department.

The federation said: "While it is true that timber prices have risen substantially in the past 12 months, this is primarily due to the falling pound."

### Shipowners back cut in yards' capacity

Full backing for a reduction of world shipbuilding capacities along the guidelines already drawn up by the International Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, came yesterday from the International Chamber of Shipping, which represents almost two-thirds of the world's merchant ships.

In a statement, the ICS said: "The world's shipbuilding industries cannot survive or prosper by building ships that the world does not want."

### TV set sales 44 pc up

Deliveries to British distributors of imported and domestic made colour television sets rose nearly 44 per cent in November to 177,000 from 123,000 a year earlier according to the British Radio Equipment Manufacturers' Association.

### £4.8m EEC aid for UK

Nearly all the money earmarked for Britain in the first 1977 allocation of EEC regional development fund aid is to go to Scotland. Of the £4.8m awarded to Britain, £4.2m goes to Scotland.

### Reyrolle's export deal

Export orders worth £2.6m have been won by Reyrolle Parsons Group. A £2m order from the French for a £10.5m power distribution project.

## Developing self-criticism for survival

From Mr Edward Kaljayan

Dear Sir, Mr Cadman's letter (January 11) explaining "why exporters won't succeed" points out that the disincentives of high taxation and low earnings do not compensate for the chaos, discomfort, physical health risks". They are more often to be found in my first paragraph.

For the first time ever I believe a country is trying to live by exporting high technology "up-hill"—that is to say into countries higher in the table of wealth or GNP per capita.

Successful exporting has with exceptions till now relied on low prices derived from cheap labour, or from the export of raw materials. We cannot survive on the latter. We do not want to live off the former—to do so would be to perpetuate if not depress still further our standard of living.

As Sir Fred Catherwood recently pointed out in *The Observer* we must therefore develop products and services that are attractive to people enjoying that higher standard. It is difficult, and dangerous in terms of profit-risk, to try to develop products for "higher up-hill" from the United Kingdom's own experience. We are more than likely to get the specification and the product wrong—to fail. Product evolution must come from intelligence and research in richer countries.

There is a flood of it coming back to us "down-hill" from overseas reps, agents and sales managers' visits; but it appears as constant criticism. On *Panorama* representatives of government and the CBI constantly referred to it as "knocking Britain". Yet can you develop a new product without by implication "knocking" the old one? We must develop self-criticism for our sheer survival.

The casualties are there because, as is normal with human beings, United Kingdom management is especially sensitive to pressure for change from cultures of which they are ignorant. Any sense of inadequacy is reinforced; and it takes some leadership to react constructively to the market research (and product criticism) from "up the hill". Little men at head office fire, make positions politically untenable or otherwise dispose of the talent working away for Britain's survival in precarious footholds—then relax.

The diagnosis is not enough—if you accept it. I hope you, Sir, with your fellows in the press, will stimulate shareholders and needle boards of industry. May they through your efforts begin to elect into strong line-functio British Beckets whose international experience wrongly seen as "turbulent priest-hoods" better serve the country alive than dead.

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD KALJAYAN,  
Chairman and Managing Director,  
Letterstream Ltd,  
Shepherd Market,  
Mayfair, London,  
January 18.

50 times as much foreign exchange. The reasons for the casualties do not normally lie in Mr Cadman's "chaos, discomfort, physical health risks". They are more often to be found in my first paragraph.

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EDITOR  
table pay  
differential

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Pacing the fall of interest rates

of England was again to the money markets that it did not want rates to fall too fast, a that the markets are increasingly difficult to rehend. Why, it is should rates not be to fall more quickly? would it restore inducement, but would also the rush of foreign gilts which is helping up precisely those sterling balances that are anxious to



Mr John Lyle, chairman of Tate & Lyle; benefits to come from a wider earnings base

### Dunford/J & FB Crucial sums

Dunford & Elliott has received 86 per cent acceptances for its £3m issue of convertible preference stock, which could be good news for Johnson & Firth Brown. Institutional shareholders of Dunford agreed to take up 43 per cent of the new issue; J & FB bought 15 per cent of the stock in full form and has clearly taken up its entitlement. The remaining 28 per cent, and a number of the institution must now be looking to the premium available on acceptance of J & FB's offer. Accepting stockholders can now get 15p in J & FB shares for the 20p they paid yesterday. And what little of the new stock has found its way into the market (selling at 16p last night) offers a rapid 35 per cent gain if J & FB's bid is successful. J & FB can pick up most of the convertible issue the arithmetic of the takeover will swing significantly in its favour. The stock represents 45 per cent of Dunford's fully diluted equity and carries voting rights in that proportion whether converted or not. If it can add a large part of this issue to its existing stake—11 per cent acceptances from ordinary shareholders so far and 14 per cent bought in the market—J & FB will be in sight of control.

### Tate & Lyle A more sedate tempo

The tug-of-war between Tate & Lyle's sceptics still nervous about the presumed preponderance of sugar trading profits in the commodity handling trading, storage and distribution division and those content to look no further than their nose at the group's impressive five years' earnings record moved in the latter's favour after yesterday's fall in figures. True, Tate is moving at a snail's pace to allay those fears about the composition of its profits. Nevertheless, after last year's dull conditions in the sugar market (which meant only a marginal rise in turnover to £1,344m) the £5m rise in pre-tax profit to £52.5m was respectable enough even if it did not satisfy some of the wilder outside estimates. Coupled with the group's recovery from the current year, however, the shares recouped all their initial 10p fall to close unchanged at 270p. Even so, there are still a couple of blurred areas in the inquiry about the latter the commodity handling side will run into more volatility. Certainly, in 1975-76—though Unifrank clipped in an extra £2m or so, road transport im-

proved on the previous year's loss and there was some bonus from coffee trading—it looks as though sugar trading moved ahead to offset lower profits from molasses to leave the percentage contribution from commodity handling unchanged. The other issue is what attitude the market will take to Tate's decision not to provide for deferred tax any more, which has cut the tax charge to only 32 per cent, since on a normal tax charge the historic p/e ratio of 41 would rise a couple of points. Meanwhile, there are no surprises in the profits breakdown. The contribution from raw sugar production was sharply lower at £90,000 due to the Belize drought and nationalization of its sugar interests in the West Indies which has also meant a £62m below the line extraordinary item. Shipping, too, has picked itself up off the floor, helped by the deal with P & O, though at £1.9m its contribution is a long way short of the £13.3m earned in the palm days of two years ago. Current year profits will be boosted by a maiden contribution from Maabry & Carter, worth around £5m net of financing charges but assuming nothing untoward on sugar trading this year's profits are unlikely to move much above the £65m level. Even so, a 61 per cent yield provides a reasonable base for the shares in the present market. Final: 1975-76 (1974-75) Capitalization £147m Sales £1,344m (£1,274m) Pre-tax profits £52.5m (£47.5m) Earnings per share 59.9p (60.6p) Dividend gross 18.2p (15.5p)

### Gestetner Margins under pressure

Gestetner's 34 per cent profits improvement matched most expectations. But that is partly due to a write-back above the line of £1.65m from an over-inflated bad debt reserve. Discounting this and the absence of non-recurring losses which amounted to £531,000 last time, profits growth is pretty much in line with the 23 per cent improvement recorded at the sales level. All of which leaves Gestetner's growth tag looking slightly ragged yesterday and the shares fell against the trend by 10p to 259p. With trading margins coming under severe pressure mainly as a result of price controls in many countries, and the prospects of stable earnings eliminating foreign exchange benefits, the group would seem extremely hard put to even match this performance next time. At the same time there is a view that Gestetner's strong hold on the cheaper end of the office equipment market may be more difficult to maintain, particularly in overseas markets which account for some four-fifths of total business. In the United States, particularly, the arrival of Xerox's 9200 duplicator at the sophisticated end of the range is expected to result in other up-market groups like A. B. Dick and Addressograph striking to retrieve ground previously surrendered to Gestetner at the lower end. Meanwhile, Gestetner's cash balances have improved £13m to £34m, but borrowings have also risen by £5m to a similar figure and stocks and debtors have risen £8m and £18m respectively. Now selling on a p/e ratio of just under seven the shares are none in line with the market average, but precious little support is provided by a yield of only 3.4 per cent. Despite the group's management record and marketing reputation the rating could be under pressure, although under CCA it fares reasonably well: earnings would be 30 per cent lower. Final: 1975-76 (1974-75) Capitalization £89m Sales £233m (£189m) Pre-tax profits £26m (£19m) Earnings per share 27.2p (21.5p) Dividend gross 5.44p (4.95p)

## Business Diary: Wings over CEI • Hand across the sea

everybody from the sister down is insisting into the spot-Cinderella of industry, engineering, it quite a year for Siringle, who yesterday Tony Dummer as of the Council of Institutions (CEI). les, who retired as an last year, has joined a (1971) and is a non-director of Hunting Royal Air Force Sir came Controller of g and Supply. ie umbrella organiza- e professional bodies top-drawer chartered

demands grew for the Govern- ment to set up a public inquiry into the profession. The word in Whitehall yesterday was that Jim Callaghan has been discussing a possible inquiry with Eric Varley, the Secretary of State for Industry, who has been keeping an eye on the situation since the latter's months of the Wilson administration. Varley, in turn, is talking over education, science and employment aspects with his respective opposite numbers, Shirley Williams and Albert Booth, and may decide on some form of public inquiry by the end of this month. Varley is reported to be largely in favour, but there are some anxieties among his advisers that an inquiry, which might take up to two years to complete, would only delay change. An inter-departmental study is already going on into industrial management, particularly in engineering, and the Association of Science is due to complete by July an investigation for the Government into the profession in relation to manufacturing performance. Among the voices raised for an inquiry is that of John Lyle, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers Association, now trying to recruit the many professional engineers who have stayed out-

side the trade union movement. He does not believe that an inquiry would necessarily delay changes suggested by the present investigations and a committee will be enough to persuade the traditionalists to shift their ground. Sir Charles is expected to follow previous CEI thinking, questioning the value of an inquiry but not directly opposing it. His vice-chairman is Sir John Arwell, former chairman of the Weir Group's engineering division. Autograph Lord Ponsonby, chairman of the Greater London Council, could be in for a bad bout of writer's cramp this year after his appearance at receptions in London and Washington in the past week. It isn't that he will be writing to apologize for any outbursts of extreme high spirits, although the parties were convivial enough. The peer is also chairman of the London Tourist Board and a member of the executive of an associate body, the London Convention Bureau. It was in these latter capacities that he was on hand at the receptions, one for chief executives of American professional associations at the British Embassy last week and the other a Guild dinner this week for a

thousand members of the United States Association of Trial Lawyers, who have been holding their annual convention in London. Lord Ponsonby offered at the gathering a personal letter to endorse any certificate of attendance that would help the Ameri-



Lord Ponsonby.

6,000 members of a women's barbershop quartet singing association, the Sweet Adelines, take over the Albert Hall. Ann Gooch, president of the Adelines, was at the British Embassy reception when Lord Ponsonby first made his offer, and even if they don't all rush to get the autograph of a real live British lord, another 6,000 assorted American convention visitors are expected during 1977. When last heard of, the peer and convention bureau chief executive Geoffrey Smith were in conference, wondering whether to go the whole hog and produce a standard endorsement on a fancy scroll.

### Unions, too

When Ken Edis went to Carlton Industries four years ago to reorganize and rationalize the holding company's many pension schemes into Carlton Industries group pensions fund, he little realized that his creation would become his future backer. United Pension Services, launched yesterday, is a new idea and represents the Carlton pension fund's investment in the pensions industry. Rather than lose Edis once his stint was finished, it was decided to capitalize upon both his experience and the low overheads by forming a specialist pensions consultancy.

It is very much designed for the smaller company which has hitherto had little option other than to go for an insured scheme or self-administered scheme. Ansbacher Investment Management, which would not mind a slice of the action if the chance occurred, will provide investment management. Before he went to Carlton, Edis was the pension scheme controller with Allied Breweries pension fund. He does not intend to limit his pension horizons to managers only, but is very keen on acquiring trade union clients who need advice in their negotiations. Technical consultant to the new company is Terry Arthur, an ex-Welsh rugby international, he is the author of an irreverent book on politics called 95 per cent is crap, as well as being an independent consulting actuary. Jargon department: Biscat, a new international organization set up by scientific research bodies in six European countries, is looking for computer personnel. The official language of the organization is English and its purpose is to "study the current atmosphere by means of the incoherent scatter technique" and the low overheads by forming a specialist pensions consultancy.

## HOLLIS BROS. & E.S.A. LIMITED.

INTERIM STATEMENT—FOR THE HALF-YEAR  
30th SEPTEMBER 1976  
(Unaudited)

	6 months to 30.9.76	6 months to 30.9.75
Turnover	£900	£900
Trading Profit	1,482	1,100
Interest	375	413
Group Profit Before Tax	1,107	687
Less Estimated Corporation Tax	575	357
Group Profit After Tax	532	330
Less Preference Dividend paid	2	2
	530	328

The increase in turnover and profit reflects greater activity in the timber divisions of the Group. Stocks are balanced to current and foreseeable trading requirements. The present financial situation of the country has led to reduced expenditure in the educational field and adequate measures have been taken to meet the changed conditions which the Chancellor's policy imposed. Our export potential continues to develop and this with the continuing policy of diversification leads our Directors to believe that the full year's trading will compare favourably with 1975/1976.

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend of 4.225% net on each 25p Ordinary Share equivalent with deemed Advance Corporation Tax to 6.5% (5.9%) gross. You will observe the Interim is increased and it is anticipated that the maximum dividend permitted will be recommended as the final dividend.

Payment will absorb £93,057 (net) and will be made on 28th February, 1977, to shareholders whose names are on the Register at the close of business on 4th February, 1977.

By Order of the Board

J. S. DOWZALL  
Group Secretary.

Michael Grylls

## Time for the NEB to come into the open

Today, for the first time, the House of Commons is to have the opportunity to debate the National Enterprise Board. Not that it is noted in government time, but on a Friday when most of us are in our constituencies.

Last week Maurice Corina wrote in Business News about the Prime Minister taking on overall charge of industrial strategy. The NEB under its chairman, Lord Ryder, is one leg of this strategy. (Another is the National Economic Development Office's useful Sector Working Parties.) Lord Ryder's expanding "empire" has been particularly favoured by the Cabinet. Schools, hospitals and the armed forces all fell before the Chancellor's pre-Christmas axe, whereas the NEB was given an extra £100m of taxpayers' money to spend. Why?

The National Enterprise Board, born while Mr Wedgwood Benn was Secretary of State for Industry, is popular with the left wing of the Parliamentary Labour Party, so perhaps the £100m was a sop to them. No explanation was given to Parliament so we can but guess.

But guesswork is the unwelcome tool of any student of the NEB and for parliamentarians it is hard to get answers. I have been a persistent questioner about the board but, more often than not, ministers refuse to answer.

Yet, in these days of retrenchment, Lord Ryder's National Enterprise Board is one of the few big spenders left. In 12 months it has spent nearly £500m in acquiring shares, either by transfer from the Department of Industry or by buying into companies in the private sector.

So far, Leyland has "cost" the NEB £246.5m plus £100m worth of loans. Today, the NEB's holding in Leyland has a market value of only £64m. A 2.59 per cent stake in Dunford and Elliott cost the IRC in 1968 nearly £1m. A few months ago the NEB transferred to the NEB for only £122,111—a loss to the Government of nearly £800,000. There was a similar loss of nearly £4.25m from the Government's stake in Brown Boveri Kent and Cambridge Instruments.

One good shareholding Lord Ryder had willed on him was the 50 per cent stake in Ferranti, costing the NEB £8.5m. There should be a good profit there and I believe Lord Ryder should soon consider selling it and so lessen the NEB's demand for taxpayers' money.

Section 2 (4) of the Industry Act, 1975, gives the National Enterprise Board power to dispose of shares. Some industrialists will have been surprised to see "getting" Clive Sinclair of Sinclair Radionics teach up in Grosvenor Gardens. (His recent achievement in developing a mini television set has been much publicized.)

Sinclair has already had a grant from the National Research Development Corporation. He then sold the NEB 43 per cent of his company. Why?

Was there no City institution willing to back him? Is a mini-television so speculative? None of us knows the answer. But, if we taxpayers are to

have Lord Ryder making decisions on our behalf with our money, MPs must surely be given the facts and figures. One of Parliament's complaints is that the public are involuntary and disenfranchised shareholders in the NEB. Mr Edward du Cann's Public Accounts Committee recently called for proper accountability from it.

In a recent debate in Parliament, Mr du Cann and I both pressed for effective ways for members to monitor the NEB. In fact, I believe the Government's treatment of Parliament over the board has been scandalous.

The Industry Act 1975 put a duty on the Secretary of State to publish Guidelines for the NEB. Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, did produce draft Guidelines in March, 1976, but no opportunity was given to MPs to debate this draft. Apparently we are not to be encouraged to express a view!

Then, surprise, surprise, on December 23 last year (just as

the House was rising for Christmas) the Secretary of State shipped the final definitive Guidelines into the Library of the House. The first I saw of them was a report in The Times on December 24.

What a way to run a government body with over £1,000m to spend!

The NEB, in the Government's Draft Guidelines of March, 1976, was required to ensure "the full involvement of employees in decision making at all levels". This, in turn, was a watering down of Mr Wedgwood Benn's earlier directive that "there should be workers' democracy at all levels".

Now the official Guidelines tell the NEB that "it shall make appropriate arrangements with their subsidiaries to ensure that management is playing its part in furthering government policies in this field". A more sensible and realistic directive and, happily, a far cry from Mr Benn's earlier strident demand.

The Guidelines are not just unimportant do's and don'ts.

For example, they allow Lord Ryder and his team to spend up to £10m on any project, without any reference to the minister, or up to £25m simply by telling the minister that they are going to.

So, even if the Public Accounts Committee does get to grips with the NEB, it will be after the event—probably long after.

Last September the board published its six-monthly report. The figures were not encouraging. Excess of expenditure over income was £894,000; of the expenses £536,000 were administrative and £414,000 were attributable to the "organizing committee" prior to the formation of the board—an expensive holding company and one asks for what purpose, except to insert one more bureaucratic layer between state-owned companies such as Leyland, Ferranti and Rolls-Royce, and the Government.

The interim reports mention that "the NEB has agreed to make loans of £5.8m to a number of companies". To whom?

Neither Lord Ryder nor the minister seems keen to tell us. A company in the private sector would, quite rightly, be criticised for such secret-proof safe.

As I said in the House on December 9, "In Sweden, for example, the Statsforetag (the Swedish NEB) publishes in detailed terms its resources, results, yield and total capital employed. Details have actually been published by The Economist in this country, so it is evident they do not mind telling people what is going on."

Compare that to the NEB. Today, what do we know—one year after it was born—about its capital structure or its yield on capital employed?

Apparently nothing. Lord Ryder would do well to remember that he now has more shareholders than when he was chairman of the Reed Group. All 20 million taxpayers are involuntary shareholders and MPs should be able to act as guardians of the shareholders' interests.

The author is MP for North West Surrey and vice-chairman of the Conservative Industry Committee.

## Computers: the problems of security still to be resolved

Computer security and computer privacy have become rather mixed up over the past year, as the proposed privacy legislation has been debated in the House of many axes being firmly ground.

But last week's theft of tapes from an ICI computer centre in The Netherlands has served as a reminder that security per se is important, whatever degree of privacy is attached to the information being held or processed.

In one sense security is the reverse side of the privacy coin: when privacy considerations have determined what information should be kept secret, and from whom, security considerations will decide how that privacy can be attained.

But, in addition, such is the dependence on computer systems of almost every organization in the country that, even there were no need to keep the processed data secret from anyone, there would still be need to try to ensure that the data and the equipment are not stolen, broken, burnt, blown up or otherwise interfered with.

Computer-using organizations are faced with four factors which may cause them to rethink their security procedures, the National Computing Centre points out. The computer can give easier, faster access to large, centralized files; it enables files as one place to be interrogated from another; it introduces some unique security problems, but it also can provide more extensive safeguards. Overall, compared with a manual system, a well-designed and well-implemented computer system should be "safer" in

that the probability of loss is less. But the loss, if it does occur, may be large.

Disruptions to computer systems can be accidental or deliberate, and surveys in both Britain and the United States have indicated that accidental causes predominate.

Programming errors, machine breakdowns and power and air-conditioning problems are at the top of the list in one NCC survey. At the other end, very few cases of fire, flood, malicious damage, theft, fraud or unauthorized use were reported.

In a 1975 analysis by Stanford Research Institute in the United States, 362 cases of the abuse of computer systems were examined. It showed particular vulnerability in the manual handling of computer input and output in physical access to the computer installation; weaknesses in computer and terminal operation; and "failure of business ethics".

At the bottom of the SRI list were the failure to prevent or detect impersonation of a time-sharing user (with remote access to the computer); and weak control in the magnetic tape library.

In the complex business of data management or security engineering for computer systems some of the precautions are general ones, while others are tailored to the complexities of computing.

Most organizations take such basic precautions as putting the computer centre where it is least vulnerable, providing standby power supplies and carefully controlling access to the computer room, the data reception area and the tape-disc

library. Passes or badges for staff, identification checks for visitors, and key or magnetic-card entry to the computer room are the norm. Programs and data files held on magnetic tape are duplicated or triplicated (this triple arrangement is known quaintly

### Kenneth Owen Technology Correspondent

as the grandfather/father/son system) and copies are kept in different places. Sometimes the security storage companies' data warehouses are used.

Security problems have grown as computer use has become "tele-processing", as the traditional centralized batch-processing method has been supplemented by time-sharing and distributed processing networks. It is all very well to have a heavy security guard standing at the entrance to the computer room, but now someone sitting at a terminal 50 yards (or 50 miles) away can get past the guard and into the computer room via a telephone line.

Again one can do basic things like locking the terminal, so that a key and a typed-in password are needed to gain access to the system. But also there are hardware and software tricks which can give a greater

control—monitoring exactly what is taking place and ensuring that only the right people have access to particular files and programs.

Most multi-access computer systems will have been designed with security aspects in mind, so that, for example, unauthorized access is not possible and, if attempted, is recorded.

But, as the computer will only do exactly what it is told to do, it is possible for an authorized but unfriendly insider to write or change a programme to suit his or her own ends. Hence the importance, in computing as in any other critical area of an organization's work, of staff selection and morale.

Certainly some companies take the preliminary "vetting" of computer staff very seriously indeed. Some of the more spectacular computer frauds are now well known; there are doubtless many other cases which have not been allowed to become known outside the company concerned.

After last week's ICI tape theft Mr Ray Ellison, of the National Computing Centre, drew four broad lessons for managers: computerized information is easier to steal because it is held in concentrated form; authorization for sensitive areas should be withdrawn if an employee is under notice to leave; one person should not have authorized access to multiple copies of programmes or

sensitive data; and security should be tightened for weekend and night working.

For computer bureaux, handling the confidential data for hundreds of clients, good security is clearly a basic requirement. Under new security procedures introduced this month by Comshare, a London bureau, no printout or magnetic media will be handled without proof of identity; and storage facilities for magnetic tape include a fire-proof safe at the computer centre, a locked store outside the centre, safe deposit boxes at a local bank and, for long periods, bomb-proof storage by the Datakeep organization.

Mr Joe Kenny, chairman of the privacy committee of the British Computer Society, believes that the ICI case has illustrated the importance of computer techniques in society generally and in large companies in particular.

The security problem is a two-fold one, he points out—first, to try to guard against a loss or other security failure and, secondly, to have some plan which enables the organization to recover if the first-level security breaks down. Mr Kenny believes that the real value of data is not generally appreciated. Apart from the actual content of the computer tape, there is the information which can be deduced by correlation with other sources.



## Courtaulds offshoot in Japan ship paint deal

Technical and commercial agreement for the joint worldwide supply of marine paint has been reached after three years of negotiations by International Paint, Courtaulds subsidiary, and Nippon Paint in Japan.

The agreement, effective from May 1, involves joining Nippon's marine operations in Japan with Courtaulds' operations throughout the world, as well as the integration of the companies' marine paint technology.

The deal, initiated by International Paint, reflects the position of the world's dominant shipbuilder and as a major dry-docking location. The country's paint industry has, however, limited international service.

A major objective will be to develop a fully integrated range of products. International said that Japanese shipowners could expect particular benefits as their vessels increasingly traded and dry-docked outside Japan.

International is the largest marine paint supplier in the world, with sales in the year to March, 1976, of £166m, of which a third was marine paint. Nippon's sales last year totalled £122m.

## Aided projects to save £500m annually on balance of payments

By Edward Townsend

Projects granted assistance under the Government's 15-month accelerated scheme will lead to an annual saving on the balance of payments of about £500m by 1980, according to today's issue of Trade and Industry magazine.

Reviewing the impact of the scheme, which ended last July, it adds that the projects will generate orders worth more than £400m for Britain's construction industry and plant and equipment manufacturers. Half of these orders have already been placed.

When the scheme closed, 350 applications had been received and the Department of Industry had made offers worth £84m on 120 projects which will bring forward investment totalling £640m. Three loans totalling £6m were granted and the remainder was in the form of interest relief grants.

It is estimated that when the projects come on stream they will create 12,800 new jobs, the

bulk of them in non-assisted areas.

More than a third of the projects are in sectors like diesel engines, electric motors, pistons and bearings, identified as potential bottlenecks by the industrial strategy sector working parties. More than half the project costs are in the petroleum and chemicals industries, with the vehicles and component sectors accounting for £67m.

Giving examples of companies taking advantage of the scheme, now replaced by the new £100m selective investment scheme, Trade and Industry names Peabow which is to use a £75,000 interest relief grant to build an 84,000 sq ft factory in Kent for the assembly, test and despatch of large and jumbo range of generating sets which could lead to additional exports worth at least £15m a year.

Others are BTP Tioxide, which has received a £225m relief grant to double the capacity of its titanium pigments plant at Hartlepool, and Josiah Wedgwood which is undertaking major developments at Stoke on Trent creating 1,000 new jobs by 1979-80.

## Patents news

### Books that can talk to the reader

In recent British Patent BPI 450 275, an American firm, Education Engineering Associates, describes an educational aid that looks like a book but also talks to the reader.

Each page of the book carries drawings or photographs with descriptive words. For instance, in a basic primer, a picture of a dog is accompanied by the word "dog".

But, additionally, there is imprinted over the picture a plastic impression of a spiral groove. In this way one or more miniature gramophone records are formed as integral parts of the page.

The reader has a hand-held gadget which incorporates a miniature motor and rotatable wheel, rather like a small gramophone turntable.

This "turntable" carries a tiny gramophone pickup which rotates with it and can track the stationary spiral groove of the records on the book page.

The pickup is connected to a small amplifier and loudspeaker, all of which are under the control of a small finger switch in the hand-held gadget.

A pupil simply looks at the picture, reads the word, and presses the hand-held gadget. The sound of the spiral groove on the page. He then hears an audible message, for instance, correct pronunciation of the written word, in one or more languages.

A particularly interesting suggestion is that the written information can be in Braille, to aid the teaching of blind students.

For January 1, printed copies of British Patents rose to 95p regardless of length. The flat-rate pricing policy, which was last examined in 1969, means that even half-page patents (such as recent BP 1 451 828 for a novel form of car tyre pump) costs the same to buy as a highly technical treatise (such as IBM patent number 1 108 800, which stretches to four mammoth volumes).

Mr J. R. Dutton has become chairman of the plastic division of Mander Packaging, following the retirement of Mr W. A. Laurie.

Mr M. A. S. G. Stewart and Mr C. G. Wilson have been appointed to the board of Strongwax (International).

Mr R. L. Pullen, managing director of KDC Engineering, has taken over as president of Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain, succeeding Mrs Mary Griffin, of Smith's Industries.

Mr Carl F. Reinhardt has been made vice-president (regional) at Bank of America Europe, Middle East and Africa Division headquarters in London.

Mr G. Malcolm Murray has become a director of Edinburgh and Dundee Investment.

Adrian Hope

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Hillards runs twice as fast

Supporters of Hillards, the Cleckheaton supermarkets, must hope that chairman Mr Gordon Hunter and his colleagues will not make earning money sound too easy.

In the 28 weeks to November 13 pre-tax profits were a cool £1,011,874. In the year to May 1, last, they were £1,066,398; and in the 28 weeks to November 13, 1975, they were only £501,571.

The gains in turnover are striking, but less so than in profits. In the latest 28 weeks Hillards made sales of £34.4m against £26.7m a year earlier. In the year to May 1 turnover was £54.98m.

The group's success, apart from widening margins, has been in widening margins. In terms of sales pre-tax profits rose from 2.2 per cent of turnover a year ago to 3.1 per cent.

One reason was Hillards' entry into lines outside foods where margins can be twice as good. Non food sales are now a tenth of the total.

Another was the takeover of four old Brierley supermarkets from the Official Receiver.

Seriously, the chairman says: "The anticipated increases in turnover and profits have been achieved. Since the end of the half year, sales have continued to be buoyant." This is thought to mean that both sales and profits are still rising fast.

So even though the interim dividend is 1p net or 1.54p gross again, the shares hardened yesterday.

### W of England keeps some Linfood

Gateway Securities has been told that part of the 29.5 per cent stake bought by Linfood Holdings as a springboard for its agreed £7.5m bid, came from West of England Trust and its subsidiaries.

West of England sold 2,000 preference shares, 132,000 ordinary shares and 1.65m "A" ordinary. It is still interested in 144,000 ordinary shares, so it now has 15.7 per cent of the voting rights in Gateway.

### TACE rebounds but dividend passed

Having omitted an interim dividend, Tace, the former Transport & Chemical Engineering, now passes the final dividend too. Last time Tace paid a total of 1.22p gross.

However, it has recovered from an interim setback when profits fell from £165,000 to £95,000. It finished the year to September 30 with pre-tax profits slightly ahead at £362,000 compared with £337,000. Turnover climbed from £9.15m to £10.4m. But tax rose from £182,000 to £209,000.

so net profits fell from £155,000 to £153,000. Earnings a share were 2.4p against 2.7p.

The rebound in the second half is expected to continue in the current year, the board says. Payment of a dividend will be reviewed at half-time on March 31. This will depend on results and any progress in the counter-claim against the vendors of the Dutch companies.

### Lloyd's brokers bought by Lep

Lep Group has broadened its insurance activities with the acquisition of S. H. Cannon. Cannon is an incorporated insurance broker and broker at Lloyd's. The amount involved in the deal is not disclosed.

The new relationship, with Lloyd's through Cannon, is seen by Lep, with its world-wide interests in international freight forwarding and allied services, as a natural extension of its present connexion with Lloyd's in the safe movement of cargo and transportation.

It will also provide the group's existing insurance brokers, Lep Insurance Brokers, with access to Lloyd's Cannon will continue to operate as a separate company within the group. Mr Brian Leeper, chairman of Lep Insurance Brokers, joins the Cannon board as chairman. Mr Michael Marsden, managing director of LTB, joins Mr Gordon Ayerst, the present managing director, as joint managing director.

Record sales of £12.2m against £9.9m, have brought an 8 per cent advance in pre-tax profits at White Child & Beney to £1m for the year to September 26. This reflects a good recovery in the second half by its plastics and container group. Earnings a share are 8.44p against 6.41p. The dividend goes up from 4.1p to 4.5p gross.

### Late rally at White Child & Beney

Record sales of £12.2m against £9.9m, have brought an 8 per cent advance in pre-tax profits at White Child & Beney to £1m for the year to September 26. This reflects a good recovery in the second half by its plastics and container group. Earnings a share are 8.44p against 6.41p. The dividend goes up from 4.1p to 4.5p gross.

### Bullough takes off to top first-time £2m

Accelerating in the second half, engineering group Bullough topped £2m for the first time in the year to end-October. Some 35 per cent, up to £332,000 after six months, the full year saw a 75 per cent jump to a record £2.15m pre-tax. Turnover in the year rose from £13.5m to £22.1m. Farnings a share came out at 17.2p compared with 11.6p. Its total payment is raised from 7.01p gross to 7.71p.

Capital spending was over £1m in 1975-76 and a similar rate is likely in the present year. Short-term borrowings at year-end were low, the board says, and adequate borrowing facilities are available for the current year. Though not looking to as big a push as last year, profits should again show strong growth.

### A. & J. Gelfer ahead

Inching ahead is better than not moving at all. On a turnover slightly up from £1.37m to £1.38m, the pre-tax profits of A. & J. Gelfer advanced from £250,000 to £254,000 in the half year to September 30. But earnings a share of this maker of ties, men's headwear

and scarves eased from 2.38p to 1.95p. The dividend rises from 0.53p adjusted for a scrip issue to 1.72p gross.

Over the whole of last year profits rose from £695,000 to a record £622,000.

### Currency gains help A. J. Mills

Despite a rise in turnover from £51m to £53.9m, the pre-tax profits of A. J. Mills (Holdings) the food importer and distributor fell 13 per cent to £679,000 in the year to October 30.

But after adding £87,000 of credits from currency translations, compared with a debit of £150,500 from the disposal of quoted investments, a ware-house and the writing-off of goodwill, profits after tax, and extraordinary items went up from £179,000 to £402,500.

Earnings a share without the items slipped from 9.4p to 9p though the dividend rises from 3.8p gross to 4.2p.

### Late rally at White Child & Beney

Record sales of £12.2m against £9.9m, have brought an 8 per cent advance in pre-tax profits at White Child & Beney to £1m for the year to September 26. This reflects a good recovery in the second half by its plastics and container group. Earnings a share are 8.44p against 6.41p. The dividend goes up from 4.1p to 4.5p gross.

### Denbyware poorly

Poor figures from Denbyware were looming after the chairman's September warning and in the six months to September 30 sales rose by only 7 per cent to £4.38m while pre-tax profits fell from £820,000 to £406,000. Nor will the full year be as good as 1975-76. But the worst is over, and the interim dividend stays at 3.25p a share gross.

Starting up an export drive and the slide in the pound against the dollar hurting imports of United States furniture were largely to blame.

### Hallite moves well

Maker of synthetic rubber and plastic precision seals, Hallite Holdings posted pre-tax profits in the half year to November 13 from £200,000 to £285,000. Turnover climbed from £1.92m to £2.34m. Up went net profits from £95,000 to £138,000 and earnings a share from 4.2p to 6.1p. The interim dividend rises too, from 1.75p to 1.92p.

For the full year, the board looks to much better pre-tax profits than the £363,000 for 1975-76. Included in results for the first time is the group's new United States subsidiary. Its performance so far has been better than expected.

## Quadruple LAFCO to beat work trade gain

By Richard Allen

London American Corporation, the financial and commercial group in which Midland has the controlling stake, pushed pre-tax profits £2.64m in the year to September 30.

This compares with £1.1m for the previous year after a £1.1m bad debt provision. Turnover for the year was £211m compared with £112m in nine months.

Pointing out that quadrupled turnover at fits in the past four years, Hugh Weeks, chairman yesterday: "We confide in the trend in the trade in 1977."

Midland Bank bought per cent stake in the group in 1975. That was after Bank International, which held 40 per cent, was required by the United States Federal Reserve Board to divest its stake in LAFCO. York-based export ma subsidiaries.

The group is also a good owned by Finance for its through its Industrial & Commercial Finance Corporation.

The group specializes in capital goods and equipment, particularly agricultural machinery. It undertakes less in more than 100 countries.

Of the £211m turnover, £81m related to Kingdom exports with balance covering external sales undertaken through seas subsidiaries in New Toronto, Lausanne, Vienne, Hamburg. Since the year a new export house has established in Paris.

In his statement, Sir says that the economic expected in the latter 1976 and in 1977 now seem doubtful, but LAFCO's should be increasingly in times of financial strain.

### Warner Est ahead

Warner Estate Holding, out of the year to Sept 30 with pre-tax profit £724,000 against £887,000 the previous 18 months, annual £590,000. Turnover was £4.61m, £4.6m for the longer period.

Earnings a share on the comparison were 4p 4.1p and the total dividend 3.66p gross against 5p 3.35p (annualized). The results include Lar Holdings for 12 months.

## Business appointments

### Deputy chairman for Legal & General

Lord Caldecote has been elected deputy chairman of Legal and General Assurance. He is chairman of the Legal and General Assurance Corporation and director of Legal and General Assurance Corporation.

Mr J. F. K. Hinde, head of legal division, London and Mr K. A. V. Macrell, group planning co-ordinator, have been made directors of Shell International Petroleum.

Mr Harold Keating becomes chairman of the British Gas Corporation's West Midlands region from April 1. He succeeds Mr David Beavis, who is retiring.

Mr T. C. Maca has been made a director of Barclays Bank (London and International). He remains the Registrar of Barclays Bank Limited.

Mr C. R. McCay, chairman and managing director of Odeon's has joined the board of Imperial Tobacco.

Mr John McQueston has joined the board of Transocean Services. The following changes have been announced by House of Fraser: Mr K. T. Marley, who is retiring from executive office in the group and as a director of Frasers, becomes non-executive chairman of Binns and of House of Fraser (Northern Management), of which board he is appointed a director. Mr Winston Brimacombe, who has retired as an executive with the Dingle Group, and resigned from the board of E. Dingle, becomes non-executive chairman of Army & Navy Stores, Chisnasham and Howard & Treagus. Mr A. P. Humphries is appointed non-



Mr H. T. Holland (left), Eaton's new financial director, Europe and Lord Caldecote, who has been made deputy chairman of Legal and General.

N. F. Wood has been made managing director, but remains group financial director.

Mr A. S. W. Boxhall joins the board of S. H. Cannon, which has been appointed a director of Epicure Holdings.

Mr Anthony Arncliffe has been made deputy managing director of Powell Duffryn Engineering.

Following the departure of Mr John Perry, who is joining the board of the corporation in America, Mr R. Thompson has succeeded him as managing director of Diversy Limited.

Mr William Knox and Mr Eric Steele become directors of Diversy (Ireland).

Dr Martin Jones has been made a director of New Electronic Holdings.

Mr J. R. Dutton has become chairman of the plastic division of Mander Packaging, following the retirement of Mr W. A. Laurie.

Mr M. A. S. G. Stewart and Mr C. G. Wilson have been appointed to the board of Strongwax (International).

Mr R. L. Pullen, managing director of KDC Engineering, has taken over as president of Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain, succeeding Mrs Mary Griffin, of Smith's Industries.

Mr Carl F. Reinhardt has been made vice-president (regional) at Bank of America Europe, Middle East and Africa Division headquarters in London.

Mr G. Malcolm Murray has become a director of Edinburgh and Dundee Investment.

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**CONTRACTS AND TENDERS**

**GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA**  
**KUANTAN PORT, PAHANG**  
**TENDER NOTICE**

**CONTRACT FOR NAVIGATIONAL BUOYS OR TOWERS**

The Government of Malaysia invites tenders for the supply and installation of navigational buoys or towers for the new port being constructed fifteen miles north of Kuantan in the State of Pahang.

The Government of Malaysia has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the foreign exchange cost of the project and it is intended that the proceeds of the loan shall be applied to the foreign currency payments made under the contract. Such payments by ADB will be made only upon approval by ADB of application presented by the Government of Malaysia in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreement and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of that agreement. It is a requirement of the sub contract that goods and services to be used for, or in connection with the sub contract shall be manufactured and/or produced from member countries of ADB and Luxembourg only.

The contract comprises the supply and installation of the navigational aids at sea to mark the approaches to the new port.

The successful tenderer will become a nominated subcontractor to one of the main contractors engaged on the project.

The supply and installation of these navigational aids is scheduled to be completed during 1977.

Scope of contract—Alternative I

- The supply and installation of one tower and nine buoys
- Alternative II
- The supply and installation of five towers and three buoys
- Alternative III
- The supply and installation of seven towers

Tender documents may be obtained not later than 4th February 1977 from the address given below on payment of a non-refundable deposit of RM100.00 or DFL105.00 in the form of a cash payment or crossed cheque in favour of Bish and Partners, sent under registered cover. The closing date of tenders shall be Friday, 1st April 1977.

**BISH & PARTNERS B.V.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 2278**  
**2000 HAARLEM**  
**NETHERLANDS**

**CONTRACTS AND TENDERS**

**CARAIBA METAIS S.A. INDUSTRIA E COMERCIO**

**MINING AND COPPER SMELTER PROJECT**

**INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE TO SUPPLIERS OF ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT FOR COPPER MINING, CONCENTRATION AND METALLURGY FACILITIES CARAIBA METAIS S.A. INDUSTRIA E COMERCIO SHALL HOLD AN INTERNATIONAL TENDER FOR THE DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, SUPPLY AND ERECTION SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED MINING, CONCENTRATION, AND PLANT AT, RESPECTIVELY, JARAGUARI AND CAMACARI MUNICIPALITIES, STATE OF BAHIA, BRAZIL.**

**GROUP 1 : MINING**

Electrical and mechanical equipment for open pit and underground mining, water supply, laboratory, telecommunication system, 230 kv substation, emergency electric supply.

**GROUP 2 : CONCENTRATION**

Electrical and mechanical equipment and sets of components for crushing, sampling, stacking and reclaiming, grinding, flotation, thickening and filtering, waste thickening and disposal, electric supply and instrumentation.

**GROUP 3 : METALLURGY**

Electrical and mechanical equipment and sets of components for intake and sampling, concentrate drying, flash furnace, conversion, anode casting, electrolytic refining, cathode smelting, wire-bar casting, fire-rod casting, sulphuric acid plant, thermal power plant and emergency power generation, oxygen plant, maintenance shop, quality control, electric supply and instrumentation.

For payment of the above mentioned equipment, Caraiiba expects to count upon funds from

The Interamerican Development Bank—IDB, pursuant to a financing currently under negotiation.

Participation in the international tender to be held shall be limited to manufacturers having headquarters in the Interamerican Development Bank's member countries and/or in countries deemed as eligible by that financing agency. Interested suppliers are hereby invited to contact Caraiiba Metais S.A. Industria e Comercio through its consultant at the address below, until February 28th, 1977, to obtain additional information on the project and on the equipment to be bought and further to get acquainted with the requirements for suppliers' qualification.

**MILDER KAISER ENGENHARIA S.A.**  
**Avenida Rio Branco, 128, 13-Andar**  
**20,000 Rio de Janeiro, RJ.**  
**Brasil.**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY**  
**MANUFACTURERS DATA BASE (MDB)**

**INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PURCHASE AND FIXING OF CEILING SYSTEMS**

The Department invites applications to tender for the purchase and fitting of proprietary suspended ceiling systems for the Department of Health and Social Security. The tender is to be submitted by a manufacturer or a group of manufacturers who will be responsible for the supply and installation of the ceiling systems in the Department's buildings and their maintenance and repair in the MDB.

The tender for selection will be the number of ceiling systems in the selected range (and the categories of ceiling performance which are a minimum of one Regional Health Authority area). A tenderer must submit a list of the manufacturers concerned.

Price will also have an important influence on selection.

A detailed response to these criteria will be required from the tenderers to be submitted by the Department as to the value of any orders which may result from the proposed arrangements, or that any orders will be placed.

However, no guarantee can be given by the Department as to the value of any orders which may result from the proposed arrangements, or that any orders will be placed.

Written responses from interested firms for a set of tender documents should reach the address below not later than 7 February.

**MDB Office, Department of Health and Social Security**  
**Room 838, 286 Euston Road, London NW1 3DN**

**Place your message in The Times on Valentine's day**

On February 14th, there will be a special section in the Personal Columns devoted to Valentine messages. Once again The Times bears a Valentine's day offer to thrill the heart of your loved one.

Included in the cost we will send your Valentine, to arrive by 14th February, this year's new limited edition of love poems entitled 'Love' Supplied by Unirose, 'Love' contains a selection of 36 love poems printed on antique paper, written by some of the great love poets through the ages.

To ensure your message is read there will be a card with the book reading: "There is a Valentine's message for you in The Times."

The minimum size for your message is 3 lines (allow 28 characters including word spaces per line) for which the cost is £6.50, but, should you wish to extend your sweet-nothings, it will only cost you £2.00 for each additional line.

Complete the coupon below and return it with a cheque or postal order, made out to Times Newspapers Limited to:

The ASA Department, 4th Floor, The Times, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Place your message here (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

Name of sender: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of proposed recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Offer applies to U.K.



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Quadruple markets  
LAFD beat  
trade

## Index at six-month peak as buyers hold sway

Index reached its best  
six months as profes-  
sionists continued to  
longer term view of  
progress.

Small profit-taking  
to keep prices below  
levels, the index had  
15 by 3 pm and, by the  
5.33 up at 386.9.

said the interest was  
dely spread than of late  
d hardened 1p to 69p  
se who like second-  
int in the thought that  
ould rise from 14.4m  
id 55.7m in the year  
id as business goes well,  
known as a steel  
but it is also big in  
w tracks and military  
The yield is already  
ent.

igh it dwindled in the  
t, the prospect of a cut  
today kept the tone

was also a feeling that  
investors stayed away  
equity market pending  
me of applications for  
long "tap".  
ment stocks performed  
er an uncertain start.  
ed stocks, which  
d somewhat early in the  
vered later to close a  
point up on the day.

Next year's payment  
Pear's latest bait

rd Allen  
already promised a  
ent dividend increase  
in respect of 1976 re-  
ar & Jackson is now  
g a further 27 per  
ase in the payout to  
ss next year.

stest round of Spear's  
fend off the takeover  
Hestair, chairman Mr  
Bartolome has written  
olders advising them  
sury permission has  
ted for the increased

ster Mr de Bartolome  
he has hitherto been  
be specific about the

Continued interest from both  
domestic and foreign buyers  
helped the short-term stocks to  
recover from early weakness.

Long-term stocks also did  
well, particularly during the  
afternoon. They started badly in  
the morning, but then came  
back later during trading to  
close up to 1 of a point up  
during business hours. In after-  
hours business, they gained  
further ground to end the day  
1 of a point up. Medium-term  
stocks did similarly well.

Undated government stocks  
also advanced, closing one  
sixteenth of a point up on the  
day's trading.

Of the "blue chips", by far  
the most outstanding performer  
was Fisons with a jump of 13p  
to 325p. Unilever, too, was in  
good form with a jump of 8p  
to 450p and there were useful rises  
from Glaxo 5p to 435p, Pilkington  
5p to 310p, BAT 4p to 272p  
and ICI 3p to 260p.

This week's results continued  
to give strength to Rank, men-  
tioned here and up 9p to 175p,  
while others to rise were Inter-  
national Computers, 9p to 171p,  
EMI, 7p to 233p, Rayrolle  
Parsons, 7p to 138p, the last  
named still pinning its hopes on  
a merger of its turbo interests.  
Anglia continued to out-perform  
the television sector with a rise  
of 7p to 113p, but there was  
also firmness in Trident 36p,  
Scottish TV 29p and ATV 29p.  
In foods, the initial reaction to  
figures from Tate & Lyle was  
one of slight disappointment,  
but the shares later rallied to  
close unchanged at 270p. Lyons

had a good session with a rise  
of 3p to 62p, Sainsbury con-  
tinued in its recent strong form  
and added 2p to 156p, while  
Kwik Save firmed 3p to 140p.

In the oils sector, Burmah  
rose 4p to 60p on news of  
United States backing for its  
tanker loans and the shares  
were added 8p this week on the  
more favourable developments.  
BP gained just 2p to 816p, but  
Shell, 6p to 488p, were a strong  
market as were Ranger Oil,  
better by 87p to £19 on com-  
ment.

Spillers managed a gain of just  
3p to 321p, despite gossip of  
stock losses on meat and  
troubles at the Wellingborough  
factory. Mr Michael Vernon,  
chairman, said: "Losses at  
Wellingborough were small and  
not unexpected, and our meat  
company, Meade-Loundie, will  
make record profits this year.  
In meat, all depends on busi-  
ness from week to week."

In a thin market, Atlantic  
Shipping were marked up 35p  
to 285p on speculative demand.  
Hunting Gibson 146p and  
Runciman 108p both rose 4p.  
A denial of a bid immediately  
clipped 2p from FMC which  
closed at an unchanged 68p.  
Spear & Jackson added 2p to  
121p on the profits estimate  
forming part of its bid defence.  
Wilnot Breeden was another  
good market on talk that a  
strike was being built up and  
the shares closed 51p up, at  
60p.

In engineers, the best were  
Hawker Siddeley 12p to 180p,  
Metal Box 5p to 276p, Tube  
Investments 6p to 334p, Staveley  
6p to 177p and Simon 5p to  
146p. Random features included  
Lead Industries, better by 5p  
to 149p, and Meat Trade Sup-  
pliers 8p to 88p.

In the financial sector, there  
were 5p rises from Lloyds 230p,  
Midland, 290p, and Barclays  
285p. National Westminster  
ended just 2p to the good at  
232p, but there was interest in  
some of the merchant banks  
like Guinness Peat 10p to 165p,  
L. Joseph 5p to 125p, Arbuthnot  
Latham 5p to 120p and Hambros  
14p to 170p. Union Discount  
firmed 10p to 350p after this  
week's figures.

The best of selectively wanted  
properties were Land Securities  
up 8p to 152p, Haslemere 6p to  
178p and Stock Conversion 5p  
to 183p. Insurances moved  
ahead, notably Royal 324p and  
General Accident 174p.

Ahead of figures today,  
Sidlaw rose 3p to 68p, while  
statements lowered Denbyware  
2p to 76p, AJ Mills 2p to 53p,  
and Gestetner "A" 10p to 159p.  
Equity turnover on January 19  
was £92.87m (19,357 bargains).  
According to Exchange Tele-  
graph, active stocks yesterday  
were Rank, BP, Burnham, ICI,  
Shell, Barclays, BAT Dfd and  
Ind, RTZ, Trust Houses Forte,  
Reyrolle Parsons, Glaxo, Boots,  
Bowater, Courtaulds, Tate &  
Lyle, Land Securities FMC,  
Anglia TV and Delta Metal.

## Latest dividends

Company (and par value)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Bullough (20p) Fin	2.87	2.87	1.3	5.01	4.56
Centenary (10p) Int	2.11	2.11	1.3	5.41	5.41
A. & J. Geller (20p) Int	1.12	0.35*	12.4	—	0.71*
Gestetner Fin	1.78	1.65	—	3.53	3.21
Hallite Higgs (50p)	1.92	1.75	11.2	—	5.2
Parsons (25p)	1.05	0.85	28.2	—	3.6
Ldn & Montrose (25p)	1.0	1.0	1.4	—	4.5
Marston, Thompson (25p)	0.68	0.62	25.2	—	1.51
A. J. Mills (25p) Fin	1.63	1.45	14.3	2.73	2.48
Port & Sund New	0.87	0.87	28.2	—	2.54
Tate (10p) Fin	NH	0.4	—	NH	0.8
Tate & Lyle (11p) Fin	3.2	3.6	4.4	11.8	10.8
Tate & Lyle (11p) Int	2.2	2.2	4.4	—	—
Warner Estate (25p)	1.18	0.69†	8/3	2.38	3.3†
Western Board (10p) Int	1.1	1.0	10/3	—	3

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Else-  
where in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To  
establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. \* Adjusted for scrip.  
† For 18 months.

Recovery at Hollis Bros  
is gathering pace

By Tony May

Better trading in the timber  
division of Hollis Bros & S.A.  
powered pre-tax profit by 61  
per cent to £1.1m in the six  
months to September 30.

So they are already ahead of  
the £989,000 brought in over  
the whole of 1975-76. The ques-  
tion is how far the group can  
go towards equaling the record  
£3.25m brought in over 1973-74.

Turnover jumped from  
£15.72m to £19.9m. Shareholders  
are to receive a dividend of  
1.62p gross against 1.47p. The  
board of this timber importer,  
sawmiller, flooring contractor,  
woodworking manufacturer and  
educational equipment maker,  
expects to pay the maximum for

the year.  
The good results earned the  
shares a 1p rise to 44p yester-  
day, to make a 6p gain over the  
week.

Mr R. D. Guthrie, chairman,  
says that stocks are balanced to  
meet current and foreseeable  
trading requirements. Govern-  
ment policy led to cutbacks in  
the education field, but Mr  
Guthrie says that adequate  
measures have been taken by  
the group to meet the new  
conditions.

Export potential continues to  
develop and diversification  
continues. So the board looks  
for an outlook that will com-  
pare favourably with that for  
1975-76.

## ENKA headway in slicing losses

Though losses at Enka Glas-  
nost, expressed in millions of  
florins, continued to run into  
three figures last year, the  
group made substantial progress  
towards returning to profitabil-  
ity, writes Peter Norman from  
Bonn.

Dr H. G. Zempelin, Enka's  
chief executive, said that the  
group in 1976 achieved a three-  
figure million guilder reduc-  
tion in its deficit.

The final results of Akzo's  
multinational man-made fibre  
subsidiary will be released later  
this year at the same time as  
those of its parent company.  
However, Dr Zempelin was able  
to disclose that in cutting back  
losses from 1975's 500m florin  
level, the Enka group reduced  
its fixed cost burden in 1976 by  
120m florins.

Therefore Enka's board is  
confident that it will be able  
to reduce losses still further in  
1977 and meet its goal of  
returning the group to the black  
in 1978 at the latest.

If this is the case, it will  
be the result of a thorough-  
going rationalization and  
restructuring of the group. Dr  
Zempelin made it clear that  
Enka does not expect any signi-  
ficant improvement in the mar-  
ket for chemical fibres.

At present Enka is in the  
process of exhausting internal  
possibilities for rationalization,  
is abandoning manufacture of  
those products which make and  
are likely to make heavy losses,  
and is switching output within  
specific product groups to pro-  
fitable lines.

In the group as a whole  
there has been a significant  
switch in importance away from  
textile fibres and yarns to

industrial yarns and non-fibre  
activities.

Whereas textile fibres and  
yarns accounted for 62 per cent  
of turnover in 1970, their share  
of sales had fallen to only 46  
per cent by last year. A further  
reduction in textile fibre busi-  
ness to 40 per cent of turnover  
by 1980 is planned.

For Enka the attractions of  
the industrial yarn and non-  
textile business are that this  
sector is less prone to cyclical  
fluctuations in demand. There  
is no serious international over-  
capacity problem on the pro-  
duction side, and there is no  
strong competition from  
imports from low-wage develop-  
ing countries. But Enka does  
not intend to abandon the tex-  
tile fibre and yarn business.

## Overseas

fibre business are that this  
sector is less prone to cyclical  
fluctuations in demand. There  
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capacity problem on the pro-  
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strong competition from  
imports from low-wage develop-  
ing countries. But Enka does  
not intend to abandon the tex-  
tile fibre and yarn business.

Ciba-Geigy  
makes up  
lost ground

Ciba-Geigy group sales rose  
5 per cent in 1976 to 9,490m  
Swiss francs from 9,040m, it  
said in Basle. Though this chem-  
ical and pharmaceuticals  
multinational did not give pro-  
fit figures, it said that last  
year's earnings "showed con-  
siderable improvement".  
In 1975, group after-tax  
operating profits slumped to  
191m francs from 473m. Though  
profits for 1976 were up, it did  
not reach that of 1974.

The revival of the economic  
cycle in the first six months of  
1976, with sales rising 9 per  
cent, levelled off appreciably in  
the second half, the group said.

Earnings were still "greatly  
affected by persistently unfav-  
ourable currency-exchange  
rates". The upturn in profit  
was not only because of in-  
creased sales, but also because  
of its "overall strategy aimed  
at boosting efficiency".

Property venture  
still dogs Chase

Chase Manhattan Corpora-  
tion, the holding company of  
Chase National Bank, blames  
the slow United States recovery  
for a 1976 profits drop. Net  
profits after securities transac-  
tions fell from \$173.7m to  
\$116.4m. Continuing problems  
in property did not help either.

Non-accrual and reduced rate  
loans, though down from 1975  
levels, also depressed net  
interest income. It went down  
\$65.1m from \$1,190m in 1975.

Foreign exchange trading  
profits were \$47.4m against  
\$45m, but investment securities  
transactions brought a net gain  
of \$11.3m in 1976, all in the  
fourth quarter. The year  
before it made a gain of \$17.1m  
on securities transactions.

For the whole of 1976, net  
charge-offs rose from \$251m to  
\$269m. The majority continues  
to be identified with domestic  
lending activities, totalling  
\$175.5m against \$224.3m. Of  
the total 1976 charge-offs, those  
property-related represented  
\$122m against \$103m.—Reuter.

Cut out  
your export  
problems

To: John Gardner, General Manager (Group Development),  
London American Finance Corporation Limited,  
Walker House, 87 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4AP.  
Tel: 01-236 6544. Telex: 887305.

I'd like to know more about your financial, commercial and marketing services for  
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Company \_\_\_\_\_

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Our business is solving export problems.  
We specialise in providing—on a worldwide basis—  
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materials to turnkey projects.

It may sound like a wide brief but the London  
American Group has the resources to fulfil it.

If you are an exporter anywhere in the world  
London American may be able to assist you by:

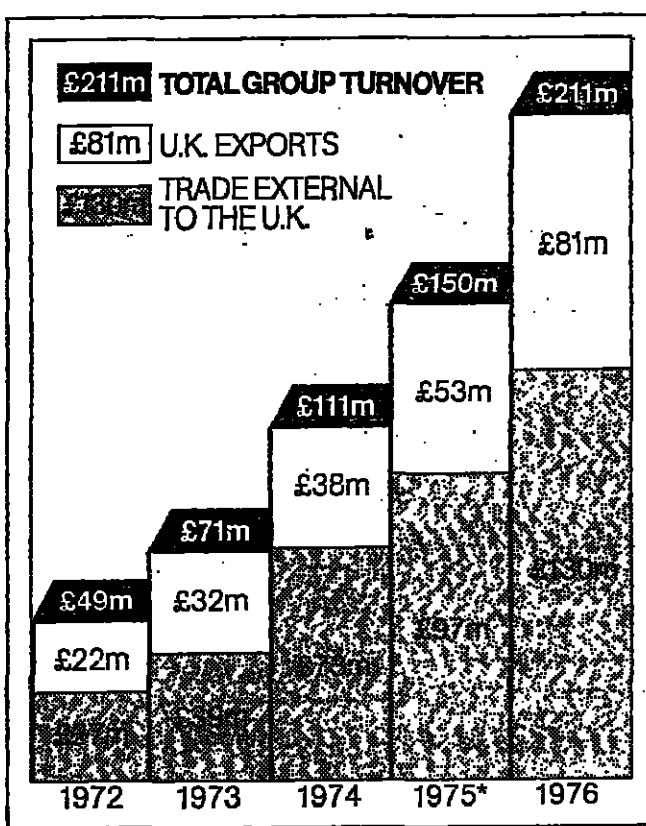
- \* financing your overseas buyers in all major currencies.
- \* generating cash flow and improving your working capital.
- \* assuming the credit risks inherent in foreign trade.
- \* providing export documentation and shipping services.
- \* distributing goods abroad.

On the other hand, if you are importing into the UK  
or elsewhere, (whether for onward distribution or for your  
own use) the London American Group may be able to  
service your requirements more effectively than your  
present arrangements.

How well do we do all this?

As you can see, our turnover has increased fourfold  
in the past four years. Last year we did business in over  
100 countries to help our customers buy or sell more  
goods more easily.

We'd like to do the same for you.



## THE LONDON AMERICAN GROUP

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—US export finance  
Drake America Corporation  
—US export marketing  
Drake America Corporation (P.R.)  
—Puerto Rico marketing

**MIAMI**  
Drake—Field Office, Latin American Marketing  
ECC—Latin American Marketing office  
**TORONTO**  
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—Canadian export finance  
**MEXICO CITY**  
Group Representative office  
**LAUSANNE**  
Credex (Lausanne) S.A.  
—international trade finance

**VIENNA**  
Credex Export-Creditbank G.m.b.H.  
—international trade bank  
**HAMBURG**  
Credex Ausenhandelsbank G.m.b.H.  
—German exports and related financial services  
**PARIS**  
Compagnie Française de Développement du  
Commerce-Extérieur (GRADEX)  
—French exports and related financial services



**LONDON AMERICAN FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED**

Walker House, 87 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4AP

Anglo American Gold  
Investment Company Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

## NOTICE OF DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND NO. 58

Notice is hereby given that dividend No. 58 of 90  
cents per share (1976: 150 cents), being the final dividend  
year ended 31st December 1976, has been declared  
to shareholders registered in the books of the com-  
pany at the close of business on 4th February 1977 and to  
presenting coupon No. 58 marked "South Africa",  
and from share warrants to bearer. This dividend ro-  
with the interim dividend of 90 cents per share  
on 14th June 1976 makes a total of 180 cents per  
share for the year (1976: 260 cents).

Transfer registers and registers of members will be  
open from 5th February to 18th February 1977, both days  
inclusive, and warrants will be posted from the Johannesburg  
Joint Kingdom offices of the transfer secretaries on  
10th March 1977. Registered shareholders paid from  
United Kingdom will receive the United Kingdom  
equivalent on 1st March 1977 of the rand value of  
dividends (less appropriate taxes). Any such share-  
holders may however elect to be paid in South African  
currency, provided that any such request is received at the  
company's transfer secretaries in Johannesburg or  
United Kingdom on or before 4th February 1977.  
A dividend is payable subject to conditions which can  
be found in the abridged consolidated income statement of Anglo American Gold Investment Company  
and its subsidiary companies, for the year ended 31st December 1976 and the abridged consolidated balance  
sheet at that date as follows:

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT		1976	1975
	R000's	R000's	R000's
Net income	46 930	74 284	74 284
Earnings	1 787	2 679	2 679
Trading commission	77	559	559
	48 794	77 522	77 522
Administration expenses	1 256	1 281	1 281
Interest paid	372	288	288
Acting and mineral rights	1 767	1 267	1 267
Expenses	3 395	2 836	2 836
Profit before taxation	45 399	74 686	74 686
African normal taxation	34	6	6
After taxation	45 365	74 680	74 680
Dividends:			
57—(Interim) of 90 cents	19 757	24 147	24 147
58—(Final) of 90 cents	19 757	32 928	32 928
Share	39 514	57 075	57 075
to general reserves	5 500	17 000	17 000
	45 014	74 075	74 075
Appropriated profit from	351	605	605
previous year	3 441	2 836	2 836
Appropriated profit, 31st			
December, 1976	3 792	3 441	3 441

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET		1976	1975
	R000's	R000's	R000's
Issued share capital	21 952	21 952	21 952
Share premium	29 630	29 630	29 630
Non-distributable reserves	51 582	51 582	51 582
Distributable reserves			
General reserve	108 000	102 500	102 500
Unappropriated profit	3 792	3 441	3 441
	111 792	105 941	105 941
	163 374	157 523	157 523
Represented by:			
Listed investments—market value	147 581	140 554	140 554
R612 839 000 (1975: R774 550 000)			
Unlisted investments	340	508	508
Loans	12 836	5 718	5 718
	160 757	146 780	146 780
Current assets			
Debtors	11 813	18 245	18 245
Cash on fixed deposit and at call	16 271	28 406	28 406
	28 084	46 651	46 651
Current liabilities			
Shareholders for dividend No. 58	19 757	32 928	32 928
Short term loan	5 432	2 620	2 620
Creditors	278	360	360
	25 467	35 908	35 908
Net current assets	2 617	10 743	10 743
	163 374	157 523	157 523
Equity earnings per share—cents	206.7	340.2	340.2
Dividends per share—cents	180	260.0	260.0
Net asset value—cents per share*	2 864	3 629	3 629
*Includes listed investments at market value			

By order of the Board  
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED  
Secretaries  
per H. J. E. Stanley  
Companies Secretary

Office of the United Kingdom Transfer Secretaries:  
Charter Consolidated Limited,  
P.O. Box 102,  
Charter House,  
Park Street,  
Ashford, Kent  
TN24 8EQ  
20th January, 1977

Office:  
10 Street,  
Essexburg 2001,  
Box 61587,  
Illinois 21077

Office:  
John Viaduct,  
AJ







## Stock Exchange Prices

### Widespread demand

**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings Began, Jan 17. Dealings End, Jan 28. § Contango Day, Jan 31. Settlement Day, Feb 8  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]







£6,000 plus appointments

**Ranger OIL (U.K.) LIMITED**

requires an experienced

**GEOPHYSICIST**

for interpretation and mapping mainly in European offshore areas.

**Experience Required:**

Applicants should have a University Degree in Geology or Geophysics, approximately 5 years of interpretation experience preferably in the North Sea and possess a good working knowledge of seismic processing.

This career position offers an attractive and challenging opportunity to participate in the Company's active exploration programme in the North Sea and other areas.

Excellent salary, benefits and working conditions.

Work location—London, England

Contact, or send details of experience to:

M. H. Pattinson, Senior Geophysicist  
Ranger Oil (U.K.) Ltd.,  
Glen House, Stag Place, London, SW1E 5AG.  
Telephone: 01-828 6842

**Assistant Secretary**

London

up to £9276

British Gas wish to appoint an Assistant Secretary to their HQ at Marble Arch.

You will take responsibility for a wide range of important work relating to the administration and co-ordination of the Gas Industry at national level. This will include liaison with Government departments like the Department of Energy with whose enquiries about parliamentary questions you will be dealing.

Other matters of direct concern will be legislation and tariffs. You will also be involved with consumers' councils and with such bodies as the Select Committee on Nationalised Industries.

You must have a suitable degree or professional qualification and several years' appropriate experience including responsibility at a high level.

Application forms can be obtained from the Personnel Manager, British Gas, 59 Bryanston Street, London W1A 2AZ, quoting reference CH/12801/TT.

Closing date for applications January 31st.

**BRITISH GAS****Assistant Director**

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

up to £9495

Applications are requested for the above vacancy in the Engineering Research Station which is located at Killingworth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The responsibilities of the successful applicant will include:

- Controlling the Station's expenditure and supervision of Workshop, Procurement, Information and other administrative services including Personnel matters.
- Major building projects and the planning, utilisation and allocation of space within buildings.

The appointment calls for a high degree of administrative and organisational ability, since the successful candidate would, as a member of the Station Directorate, be expected to be involved in the strategic planning of all Research and Development and Technical Service activities within the Station. Proven ability in the management of staff is essential. Candidates should have a degree or equivalent, in either Accountancy, Law, Engineering or Science.

Salary within range £7926-£9495.

Please write with full details of age, qualifications, experience and current salary, quoting reference RD 800201(ERS)/TT, to the Personnel Manager (HQ), British Gas, 59 Bryanston Street, London W1A 2AZ. Closing date for applications 3rd February.

**BRITISH GAS****GENERAL MANAGER AND ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER**

quired by international merchant shippers who are looking for suitably able working and efficient persons to fill the above positions in their Lagos offices. Applicants should have experience in import/export trading, shipping, documentary credits, negotiating and representations generally.

Successful applicants will be given 6 month trial period to start as soon as possible and if satisfactory will be offered subsequently 3 year contract, areas commensurate with experience but not less than £10,000 p.a. for general manager and substantially more for general manager. House and 11 provided.

It is unlikely that the successful applicant for the post of General Manager will be less than 35 years of age. Applicants for both positions are requested at first to write to shipper's agents with curriculum vitae and names of 2 referees.

P. Turner, THOMAS COOPER AND STIBBARD,  
27 Leadenhall Street, London EC3A 1AB.

CITIES SERVICE EUROPE-AFRICA PETROLEUM CORP.

require

**SENIOR GEOPHYSICAL INTERPRETER**

With at least 8 years experience in seismic interpretation. Strong geological background required, and good knowledge of seismic processing, gravity and magnetics.

Successful applicant will join small, very active and well established exploration group based in London. In addition to current operations in United Kingdom, Netherlands and Irish waters, the group is required to carry out geological and geophysical studies of a variety of areas and make recommendations regarding new exploration ventures.

Application with complete curriculum vitae to:

R. F. Schwab, Manager of Exploration,  
CITIES SERVICE EUROPE-AFRICA PETROLEUM CORP.,  
197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB.  
Tel: 01-581 2106.

**GROUP SECRETARIAT**

The Bowater Corporation, an international manufacturing organisation, invites applications from persons aged 35/45 years interested in joining the Secretariat in its London Head Office. A secretarial or accountancy qualification is a requirement, as is extensive similar experience over a period of some years.

The Secretariat comprises a small qualified team, working under the Secretary of the parent Corporation, responsible for the company secretarial, accounts, and for certain administrative affairs of the Corporation and its five U.K. operating groups. The successful applicant will be appointed Secretary of one of these groups.

An initial salary of not less than £7,500 is envisaged. A contributory pension scheme and staff luncheon arrangements are provided.

Brief details should, in the first instance, be sent to the Secretary (marked 'Private and Confidential').

The Bowater Corporation Limited,  
Bowater House, Knightsbridge,  
London SW1X 7LR.

**GROUP PENSIONS MANAGER****A Senior Management Appointment**

Applications are invited for the post of Group Pensions Manager at the Head Office of BAC at Weybridge, Surrey. BAC is a highly successful and forward-looking Group operating in all aspects of aerospace including military and civil aircraft, guided weapons and space satellites. The current order book is approximately £1 billion, seventy per cent of which is for export.

The executive to be appointed will be responsible to a main Board Director for the management of the BAC pension schemes, particularly the self-administered BAC Employees Pension Scheme established in 1974 for all employees, both manual and salaried staff. Current membership of this Scheme is approximately 24,000 out of 34,000 employees at a number of major manufacturing plants throughout the UK. A substantial salary will be negotiated, with appropriate related benefits.

Candidates (male/female), who should be professionally qualified with experience of modern pensions management, are invited to write in confidence for an application form to:

Mr. F. P. Rhodes,  
Manager, Group Personnel Services,  
British Aircraft Corporation,  
Brooklands Road,  
Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 0RN.

**AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL FOOD RESEARCH INSTITUTE SCIENTIFIC OFFICER CHEMISTRY DIVISION**

A Chemist is required to carry out research in a group concerned with the development of new food products. Experience in the synthesis of new compounds and separation techniques is required. Candidates should possess a degree in Chemistry or equivalent experience. Salary in the scale £2,149-£3,527 with a starting salary depending upon qualifications and experience. A supplement of £315.20 is payable. Non-contributory superannuation scheme at age of 18 or over. Five-day week and flexible working hours scheme operated. Application forms and further particulars from the Secretary, Food Research Institute, Colney Lane, Norwich NR4 7UA, quoting reference FR/17/77. Closing date: 4th February 1977.

**UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS**

University of Malaysia  
FACULTY OF LAW  
Applications are invited for the post of

**LECTURER IN THE FACULTY OF LAW**

Candidates for the appointment should possess a Master's degree or its equivalent in the field of Law. Salary scales (all inclusive) range from £10,000 to £15,000 p.a. depending on qualifications and experience. Further particulars and application forms are obtainable from the Secretary, Faculty of Law, University of Malaysia, 100, Jalan Sultan, Kuala Lumpur. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 25 February 1977.

**The University of Sheffield CHAIR OF METALLURGY**

Applications are invited for a Chair of Metallurgy. Candidates should have a second interest in and preferably experience in the subject in industry. Salary in the range approved by the University. Further particulars and application forms are obtainable from the Secretary, Faculty of Metallurgy, University of Sheffield, 100, Glossop Road, Sheffield S10 2TN. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 25 February 1977.

**UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS**

The University of Sheffield  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN BIOLOGY AND ANATOMY  
Applications are invited for a post of

**LECTURER**

The department has teaching commitments in the fields of General Anatomy, Histology and Human Biology. For Medical, Dental and science students. New accommodation is available with excellent facilities. Applicants must have teaching experience in at least two of the fields mentioned. Preference will be given to those who also teach Oral Anatomy and other suitable applications will be considered. Applications should be sent to the Secretary and Secretary by 25 February 1977. Further particulars and application forms are obtainable from the Secretary, Department of Human Biology and Anatomy, University of Sheffield, 100, Glossop Road, Sheffield S10 2TN. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 25 February 1977.

**EXETER COLLEGE OXFORD**

FELLOWSHIP IN LAW  
The College proposes to elect a Tutorial Fellow in Law to take up duties on 1st October 1977. Further particulars of the appointment, including conditions of service, can be obtained from the Secretary, Exeter College, 1, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JG. Applications should be sent to the Secretary by 25 February 1977. Candidates should be qualified for the post by the names of three referees.

**WE'RE AN INTERNATIONAL LEADER, WE'RE EXPANDING, WE'RE SUCCESSFUL.****SELL OUR PRODUCTS TO AN EXCLUSIVE MARKET AND EARN UP TO £8,000 A YEAR**

We are an international leader, enjoying a phenomenally high growth rate and annual turnover of £50m. Our products are sold to an exclusive market by appointment and supplied leads only, and we're currently seeking high calibre sales people to join our young team operating nationwide. If you're ambitious, you'll find plenty of scope for your talents. You'll earn in the region of £8,000 in commission as well as a share in 50% of our profits. The work is both interesting and varied, ideal ground for a man or woman with personality and communication skills. You must have your own telephone, be well educated, presentable and self-assured, our clients expect high standards of both product and sales force and our reputation is based on that understanding. In return you'll enjoy a generous benefit package, including four weeks' annual holiday, and car allowance (you must be a car owner).

So, if you're aged between 25 and 40 with drive and ability to succeed in a competitive industry, please ring Mr. Hamp on 01-267 1334 (extn. 271) or write for application form to:

Saint Ferdinand Ltd.,  
Carkers Lane,  
Highgate Road,  
London, NW5.

Vacancies exist in the following areas—London, Beds., Hants., East Kent, Essex South and Shropshire.

**Brunei Radio and Television Programme Production Managers**

To be responsible to the Head of Programmes, for the organisation and planning of either television or radio programmes, training, finance, programme administration, staff management and the day-to-day running of services.

Candidates, between 25 and 50, must have at least six years' experience of programme production and administration. Knowledge of film and video techniques is required for the television appointment and staff training experience is desirable. Experience in local radio would be an advantage for the radio appointment.

Salary will be equivalent to £8070 pa tax-free including special allowance, and attracts a 25% gratuity.

Appointment is for two or three years. Benefits include first class family passages, education allowances and subsidised housing.

For full details and application form write, quoting reference MT/1030/1C, to

**Crown Agents**

The Crown Agents for Overseas Governments and Administrations, Appointments Division,  
4 Millbank, London SW1P 3JD.

**INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANY**

seeks young, highly qualified, candidate for its London office

**TANKER OPERATIONS**

The individual will have an engineering background, several years experience with tanker operations, the disciplines and aptitudes necessary for a thoroughly professional approach to his/her areas of responsibility, familiarity with financial fundamentals such as economic evaluation techniques and budget procedures. A University degree would be desirable.

Please write with full details of qualifications, experience, age and present salary to  
MARATHON INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM (GB) LTD,  
35/38 Portman Square, London, W1H 0BN.

Attention: P. Thackray.

**Severn Trent Water Authority****Appointment of Director of Operations**

The Water Authority, which is the second largest in England and Wales, invites applications from suitably qualified persons for the appointment of Director of Operations to succeed Mr D. A. D. Rees who will become Chief Executive of the Authority on 1st June 1977 on the retirement of Mr J. F. Biddoe, CB. The person appointed will be required to take a full part in the corporate management of the Authority under the leadership of the Chief Executive and in conjunction with the Directors of Administration, Finance and Scientific Services.

The Director of Operations is responsible for co-ordinating water conservation and supply, sewerage and water reclamation, river management and land drainage operations in a region having an area of 5,500 square miles and a population of some 8½ million, the greater part of which is centred on the East and West Midlands conurbation. The management of operations is carried out through 3 multi-functional divisions based on the catchment of the River Severn and 5 on that of the River Trent.

Candidates should have a proven record of achievement in management in a large scale organisation, covering technical operations in undertakings including substantial capital works schemes, staffed mainly by engineers, scientists and technicians with support services. In particular he/she should be capable of motivating staff at all levels and must be able to work in harmony with his/her colleagues in his/her involvement as a corporate team member in the total function of the Authority and in the formulation of its long term objectives.

It is possible that the successful applicant may be offered a contract for a term of years. The salary for the post will be fully in keeping with its demands and responsibilities.

Application forms for return by 15th February 1977 are available with further details from the Chairman's Office, Severn Trent Water Authority, Abchurch House, 2297 Coventry Road, Sheldon, Birmingham B26 3PU.

**RE-ADVERTISEMENT****Dean of Faculty of Art and Design Sunderland Polytechnic**

The Faculty currently has two Departments, Fine Art and Applied Studies in Art and Design. Candidates are sought whose academic qualifications and past experience will enable them to give significant leadership in course developments, research in its broadest sense and the administration and development of the Faculty. Experience in some area of Applied Studies in Art and Design will be a great advantage. The successful candidate will be able to make a contribution outside the Faculty, both to the Polytechnic and the community at large. The salary is £9,643 European scale.

An application form and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Office, Sunderland Polytechnic, Chester Road, Sunderland SR1 3SD, and should be returned as soon as possible.

**Managing Director**

Epsom, Sandown Park and Kempton Park racecourses

United Racecourses Limited invite applications for the position of Managing Director who will be entirely responsible for the efficient running and maintenance of their three major metropolitan racecourses and for the promotion and control of all ancillary activities. The appointment will be from October 1st.

The successful applicant will have detailed knowledge of horse racing and preferably some experience in racecourse management.

A salary of £9,000 plus will apply together with a Company car, contributory pension scheme and assistance with relocation cost.

Please apply in strictest confidence with full curriculum and two references not later than February 11th to:-

**The Secretary**

United Racecourses Limited  
Racecourse Paddock  
Epsom, Surrey.

Position open to either male or female persons.

**CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION Academic Relations Officer**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons having a broad knowledge of the British educational structure at secondary and tertiary levels. Experience and/or education in Canada an advantage; good working knowledge of English and French essential.

Duties involve the development of a programme of Canadian Studies in Britain, including administration, promotional activities, negotiations with educational institutions, expansion of existing contacts and the initiation of new links in the educational field.

The position will be of interest to persons already earning over £6,000 per annum.

Further details and application forms should be obtained from the Canadian High Commission, Personnel Division, Macdonald House, 1 Grosvenor Square, London, W1 (quoting Ref: 77/2/E). Completed forms together with a detailed curriculum vitae including the names and addresses of two referees should be returned not later than FRIDAY, 4th FEBRUARY, 1977.

**Symphony Orchestra (London based)**

will shortly require a

**GENERAL MANAGER**

(male/female)

(salary by negotiation)

Applications to

Box 0116 J, The Times

Friday £6,000 plus  
Appointments  
For details, or to book your  
advertisement, ring  
01-278 9161











